# Annual Site Environmental Report Pantex Plant





It is the CNS environmental policy to protect the environment, prevent pollution, comply with applicable requirements, and continually take actions to conserve and improve our natural environment within which we perform our missions. The CNS Environmental Management System:

- Implements appropriate controls and actions to minimize environmental impacts caused by our activities, products, and services;
- Seeks continual improvement in protection of the environment through sustainability, pollution prevention/source reduction, recycling/reuse, and housekeeping excellence;
- Advances strict compliance with relevant environmental laws, regulations and other requirements;
- Provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets; and
- Documents conformance to each element of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), *Environmental Management Systems Requirements with Guidance for Use (ISO 14001)*.

Michelle Reichert
Chief Executive Officer

On the cover: Three mule deer seen on the Pantex Plant Texas Land Application fields with the wind turbines of the Pantex Renewable Energy Project shown in the background.

# Site Environmental Report Pantex Plant 2020

# **Prepared for**

U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office

Prepared by

Environmental Compliance Department

Waste Operations Department

and the Environmental Projects Department

Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS Pantex)
Amarillo, Texas 79120-0020

https://pantex.energy.gov

## Acknowledgments

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The results presented in this report are from samples collected by the Environment, Safety & Health Division's Environmental Projects Department. Many other staff members in the Environmental Departments worked on validating data, conducting quality checks, and making the data available electronically. The 2020 Annual Site Environmental Report for Pantex Plant was reviewed for classification issues and it was determined to be unclassified

#### Help Us Make This Site Environmental Report More Useful for You!

We want this summary to be easy to read and useful. To help continue this effort, please take a few minutes to let us know if this annual report meets your needs. Please tear out this page and mail or fax it to:

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To send to others outside the Texas Panhandle
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#### 3. Does this guide contain?

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What is your affiliation? Please circle.

Pantex contractor DOE

State agency Federal agency
Public interest group Member of the public
Member of Native American Nation Local government

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Thank you!

# **Annual Site Environmental Report for Pantex Plant**

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## **List of Acronyms**

AEC Atomic Energy Commission

ALARA As Low As Reasonably Achievable
AQMR Air Quality Management Requirement
ARPA Archaeological Resource Protection Act
ASER Annual Site Environmental Report

BCG Biota Concentration Guide

B&W Babcock & Wilcox

BLNWR Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge

BOD Biochemical Oxygen Demand

CAA Clean Air Act

CAP Corrective Action Plan
CAR Corrective Action Report
CCL Contaminant Candidate List
CEQ Council on Environmental Quality

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
CNS Consolidated Nuclear Security

COC Chain of Custody

COC Contaminants of Concern
COD Chemical Oxygen Demand
CRM Cultural Resource Management

CWA Clean Water Act
CY Calendar Year
D&Z Day & Zimmerman
DBP Disinfectant By-Product

DCS Derived Concentration Standard DOE U.S. Department of Energy

DOECAP

DOE Consolidated Audit Program

DOT

Department of Transportation

DPA

Data Package Assessment

DPS

Department of Public Safety

DQO

Data Quality Objective

EA

Environmental Assessment

ECD Environmental Compliance Department

EIS Environmental Impact Statement
EISA Energy Independence and Security Act
EMCS Energy Management Control System
EMS Environmental Management System

EO Executive Order

EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPCRA Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act EPEAT Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool

ERA Environmental Resource Associates

ERDA Energy Research and Development Administration

ESA Endangered Species Act FGZ Fine Grained Zone

FIFRA Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

FM Farm-to-Market Road

X Pantex Plant

FY Fiscal Year GHG Greenhouse Gas

GPS Global Positioning Satellite
GWPS Groundwater Protection Standard

HAP Hazardous Air Pollutant

HE High Explosive

HEPA High-Efficiency Particulate Air HPFL High-Pressure Fire Loop HRO High Reliability Organization

HWTPF Hazardous Waste Treatment & Processing Facility

IAG Interagency Agreement

ICRP International Commission on Radiological Protection

ISB In-Situ Bioremediation

ISM Integrated Safety Management

ISO International Organization for Standardization

IWQP Inland Water Quality Parameter JCDC John C. Drummond Center

LQAP Laboratory Quality Assurance Program

**Long-Term Monitoring** LTM LTS Long-Term Stewardship M&E Material and Equipment Maximum Contaminant Level MCL **MDA** Minimal Detection Activity Method Detection Limit MDL Maximally Exposed Individual MEI Mason and Hanger Corporation **MHC** Multimedia Radiochemistry MRaD **MSGP** Multi-Sector General Permit Non-aqueous Phase Liquid **NAPL** Non-conformance Report NCR

NCRP National Council on Radiation Protection

NELAC National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act NHPA National Historic Preservation Act

NNSA National Nuclear Security Administration

NPO National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office

NPL National Priorities List
NRF NEPA Review Form
NWS National Weather Service
O&M Operation and Maintenance
OSSF On-Site Sewage Facility
P1PTS Playa 1 Pump & Treat System

P2 Pollution Prevention

PA/CRMP Programmatic Agreement/Cultural Resources Management Plan

PBR Permits-By-Rule

PCB Polychlorinated Biphenols
PE Performance Evaluation

PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PQL Practical Quantitation Limit

PRCM Pantex Radiological Control Manual PREP Pantex Renewable Energy Project

PST Petroleum Storage Tank
PTE Potential-to-Emit
PWS Public Water System
QA Quality Assurance
OC Quality Control

RAO Remedial Action Objective

RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

RER Replicate Error Ratio ROD Record of Decision

RSD Radiation Safety Department SA Supplement Analysis

SA Supplement Analysis
SAP Sampling & Analysis Plan

SARA Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

SDWA Safe Drinking Water Act SE Standard Exemptions

SEPTS Southeast Pump and Treat System SHPO State Historic Preservation Office

SMP Site Management Plan SOC Synthetic Organic Chemicals

SOW Statement of Work

SPD Sustainability Performance Division SSI Statistically Significant Increase

SSP Site Sustainability Plan SVE Soil Vapor Extraction

SVOC Semi-Volatile Organic Compound

SWEIS Site-wide Environmental Impact Statement

SWMU Solid Waste Management Unit TAC Texas Administrative Code

TCAA Texas Clean Air Act

TCEQ Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TDSHS Texas Department of State Health Services

TTHM Total Trihalomethanes

TLAP Texas Land Application Permit TLD Thermoluminescent Dosimeter

TNI The NELAC Institute

TPDES Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

TPH Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon TPW Texas Parks and Wildlife

TPWD Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TPY Tons per Year

TSCA Toxic Substances Control Act
TSS Total Suspended Solids
TTRF Texas Tech Research Farm
TTU Texas Tech University
TWQP Texas Water Quality Permit
UIC Underground Injection Control

U.S. United States

USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services VOC Volatile Organic Compound VMF Vehicle Maintenance Facility

XII Pantex Plant

Waste Characterization Official WCO

WWII WWTF World War II

Wastewater Treatment Facility

## **Executive Summary**

Pantex Plant is the nation's primary nuclear weapons manufacturing facility. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Production Office (NPO) oversees Pantex Plant operations. Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) is the managing and operating contractor of the Pantex Plant under Contract No. DE-NA0001942. Like all manufacturing facilities, the Pantex Plant has the potential to release a variety of contaminants through its primary and supporting operations. CNS manages the environmental aspects of these operations in a manner consistent with Integrated Safety Management (ISM), applicable environmental regulations, and best management practices.

#### **PURPOSE**

The 2020 Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER) summarizes the Pantex Plant's status, data, and efforts for the environmental compliance, protection, and restoration programs. It has been prepared in accordance with DOE Order 231.1B, Environment, Safety and Health Reporting (DOEa), and DOE Order 458.1, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment (DOEb). These orders outline the requirements for environmental protection programs at DOE facilities to ensure that programs fully comply with applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, executive orders, and DOE policies.

#### MAJOR SITE PROGRAMS

The Pantex Plant site encompasses approximately 18,000 acres (ac), with most operations conducted on approximately 2,000 ac of land. As the nation's primary nuclear weapons manufacturing facility, it assembles, dismantles, modifies, and maintains the nation's stockpile of nuclear weapons. The Pantex Plant also supports the weapons stockpile through the development, testing, and fabrication of high explosives (HE) components. In addition, the Pantex Plant maintains its own steam-generating plant, water treatment plant, and sewage treatment plant. All work at the Pantex Plant is conducted under three overarching priorities: the safety and health of workers and the public, the security of weapons and information, and the protection of the environment.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

The CNS environmental policy defines a comprehensive environmental program that contains components of environmental management including, but not limited to, regulatory compliance, pollution prevention (P2), and environmental monitoring.

Data obtained from the monitoring program in past years are summarized in previous ASERs. Those reports are available in the DOE Information Repositories at the Amarillo Public Library Downtown Branch, in Amarillo, Texas and at the Carson County Library in Panhandle, Texas. The monitoring data, as well as the ASERs since 2011, are available on the Pantex Plant website at <a href="http://pantex.energy.gov">http://pantex.energy.gov</a>. Copies of previous years of the Pantex Plant ASER can be acquired by contacting Pantex Communications at <a href="mailto:public\_communications@cns.doe.gov">public\_communications@cns.doe.gov</a>.

The purpose of the environmental monitoring component of Pantex Plant's Environmental Management System (EMS) is to provide indicators of the potential impact to human health and the environment and to demonstrate compliance with applicable regulatory limits. The environmental monitoring program monitors air, groundwater, drinking water, surface water, wastewater, soil, vegetation, and fauna. Pantex

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Plant also operates a meteorological monitoring program that supports several of these requirements. Samples for 2020 were routinely collected at diverse locations, and 18,644 analyses were performed for substances including explosives, metals, organic chemicals, inorganic chemicals, radionuclides, and water quality indicators.

The Pantex Plant EMS provides the foundation to administer sound stewardship practices that protect natural and cultural resources while cost-effectively demonstrating compliance with environmental, public health and resource protection laws, regulations, and DOE requirements. Notable accomplishments in 2020 relating to the Pantex EMS are listed below.

- Pantex Plant was active in conducting environmental outreach initiatives. The initiatives included sharing Natural and Cultural Resource Program accomplishments, providing information for Earth Day activities at DOE Headquarters, and participating in a Science Bowl Competition for area Middle Schools and High Schools.
- Pantex Plant diverted approximately 46 percent of Municipal Solid Waste, and approximately 68 percent of construction & demolition material/debris originally earmarked for landfills and identified alternate pathways for beneficial reuse.
- Approximately 95 percent of all electronics procured have met criteria for being environmentally sustainable, for which Pantex won the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Purchaser Award.
- Due to the Pantex Renewable Energy Project (PREP), CNS has reduced the purchase of energy from nonrenewable sources.

As required by DOE Order 436.1, Departmental Sustainability (DOEc), the Pantex Plant EMS is audited every three years to determine the level of conformance with the *International Organization for Standardization 14001 (ISO 14001) Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use.* The last audit conducted at the Pantex Plant was during 2018, and was performed by a qualified party outside the control or scope of the Pantex Plant EMS Program. The outcome of the audit indicated that Pantex Plant continues to implement an EMS program that conforms to ISO 14001 standards. The next validation audit is scheduled to be performed in fiscal year (FY) 2022.

#### **Radiation Dose**

In 2020, the calculated annual radiation dose from releases to the atmosphere generated by Plant operations was 7.23 x 10<sup>-7</sup> mrem/yr for a hypothetical, maximally exposed member of the public (Table ES.1). This annual dose continues to be several orders of magnitude below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) standard for the air pathway of 10 mrem/yr above background and is consistent with those of previous years. No unplanned radionuclide releases occurred at the Pantex Plant in 2020. The ambient air monitoring results for 2020 were generally similar to those from previous years. All results were below the applicable DOE Derived Concentration Standard (DCS). Figure ES.1 provides a comparison of radiation doses from multiple sources.

#### **Drinking Water Monitoring**

Results from routine drinking water compliance monitoring in 2020 confirmed that the drinking water system at the Pantex Plant met water quality regulatory requirements. All analytical results for bacteria, chemical compounds, and disinfection by-products were below regulatory limits, and adequate levels of disinfectant were maintained in the distribution system. Lead and copper sampling was conducted in 2018 and is not scheduled for sampling until 2021. The Pantex Plant Public Water System continues to be

recognized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as a "Superior" supply system, the highest rating assigned by the state.

Table ES.1 – Pantex Plant Radiation Dose for 2020 Compared to Regulatory Dosage Allowances

Pantex Plant Radiation Dose (mrem)	EPA Standard Air Pathway (mrem)	DOE Standard All Pathways (mrem)		
0.000000723 (7.24E-7)	10	100		

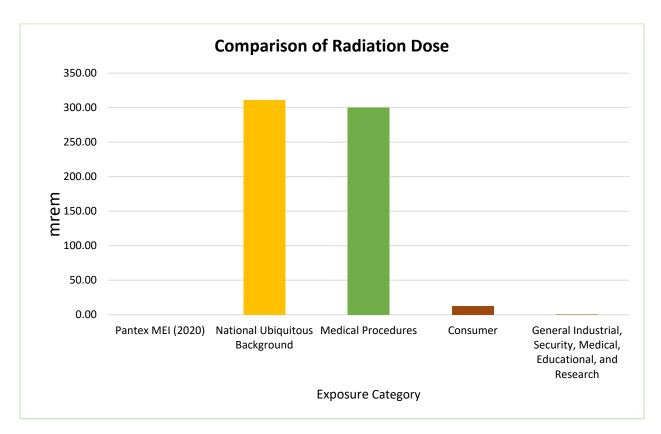


Figure ES.1 – Comparison of Radiation Dose

#### **Wastewater Monitoring**

During 2020, the Pantex Plant discharged approximately 124 million gallons of treated wastewater to the on-site playa lake. Pantex Plant plans to reinitiate the beneficial reuse of its wastewater for agricultural purposes once repairs to the on-site subsurface irrigation system have been completed.

Pantex Plant had two unauthorized discharges of untreated wastewater from the sanitary sewer system. The TCEQ was notified and both instances were remediated as required.

#### **Storm Water Monitoring**

Storm water sampling of run-off from industrial activities at the Pantex Plant was conducted in accordance with Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Multi-sector General Permit No. TXR050000. Monitoring conducted during 2020 was consistent with past monitoring results. All sample results were within effluent limitations established by the general permit.

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Environmental surveillance monitoring was conducted at the playas as a best management practice. Results obtained during 2020 were similar with past monitoring results. The playa data continues to support the position that operations at the Pantex Plant are not negatively affecting the water quality of the playas.

#### **Soil Monitoring**

Results of soil monitoring conducted at the Pantex Plant Burning Ground in 2020 were within established background comparison values. Results of soil monitoring conducted at the subsurface irrigation sites were consistent with previous year's results.

#### Flora and Fauna Monitoring

Flora and Faunal surveillance is complementary to air, soil, and water monitoring in assessing potential short- and long-term effects of operations at the Pantex Plant on the environment. Animals at the Pantex Plant were sampled to determine whether Plant activities had an impact on them. Black-tailed prairie dogs and cottontail rabbits were the species selected for sampling because they interact with both primary (air, water) and secondary (vegetation) environmental media also being analyzed. Native vegetation and crops were sampled and compared to historical and control values.

#### **Quality Assurance**

Due to its unique mission and service to the country, the Pantex Plant must strive to become a High Reliability Organization (HRO). High reliability includes robust quality assurance (QA) that ensures all environmental monitoring data provides definitive evidence of regulatory compliance and protection of human health and the environment. The complexity of analytical chemistry and radiochemistry performed to support environmental monitoring programs necessitates that Pantex Plant maintain an unparalleled QA and quality control (QC) program that meets our need for high reliability.

#### **Environmental Remediation**

Historical waste management practices at Pantex Plant resulted in impacts to on-site soil and perched groundwater. High Explosives (HE), solvents, and metals were found in the soil in the main operational areas, the Burning Ground, and in the perched groundwater beneath Pantex Plant. Data collected in 2020 indicate that the groundwater remedies are protective of groundwater resources and all detections in the main drinking water aquifer (Ogallala Aquifer) remain below background or the groundwater protections standards.

Pantex Plant has completed investigations and soil cleanup of all solid waste management units, with the exception of units that remain in an active status. This allowed Pantex Plant to transition to Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) in 2009. A Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by the EPA in September 2008 that described the final remedial actions for all investigated units.

As part of the transition to LTS, Pantex Plant operated and maintained the groundwater remediation systems, monitored the systems to determine effectiveness of the remedy, and maintained the soil remedies. Pantex Plant installed two types of groundwater remediation systems: two in-situ bioremediation (ISB) and two pump and treat systems. Monitoring results indicate that the groundwater systems are effectively treating contamination and reducing saturated thickness in the perched aquifer as designed. The systems will continue to be monitored to determine the effectiveness of the remedy and to determine if changes to the systems will be required over time to ensure the continued success of remedial actions. Soil remedies were also inspected, maintained, or scheduled for maintenance during 2020. The soil vapor extraction

(SVE) system located at the Burning Ground continued to operate during 2020 and extracted over 269 pounds (lb.) of volatile organics.

#### **Pollution Prevention**

Efforts to reduce and eliminate waste from routine operations at the Pantex Plant have resulted in significant waste reductions over the past 30 years. The reduction of waste is even more important considering the Pantex Plant population and workload has increased as waste amounts have decreased. During 2020, Pantex Plant successfully recycled over 6.1 million lb. of materials including over 22,000 lb. of electronics.

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## **Chapter 1 - Introduction**

Pantex Plant site, consisting of 17,503 acres (ac), is located 17 miles (mi) northeast of Amarillo, Texas, in Carson County. Pantex Plant was a World War II (WWII) munitions factory and was converted to a nuclear weapons assembly facility in 1951. Today, it is the nation's primary assembly/disassembly facility supporting the nuclear weapons arsenal. Included within this chapter are brief discussions of Pantex Plant location, history and mission, and facility description, followed by the climate, geology, hydrology, seismology, land use, and population of the area around Pantex Plant.

#### 1.1 SITE LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Pantex Plant site is located in Carson County in the Texas Panhandle, north of United States (U.S.) Highway 60, approximately 17 mi northeast of downtown Amarillo (Figure 1.1). The area is part of the Llano Estacado (staked plains) portion of the Southern Great Plains, and sits at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet (ft). The topography is relatively flat, characterized by rolling grassy plains and numerous natural playa basins. The term "playa" is used to describe ephemeral shallow lakes, mostly less than 0.6 mi in diameter. The region is semi-arid and primarily agricultural; however, several industrial facilities are located near Pantex Plant.

Pantex Plant is centered on a site that is approximately 17,503 acres (ac). The site consists of land owned and leased by the Department of Energy (DOE). The DOE owns 11,703 ac of the site, including:

- 9,100 ac Pantex Plant area,
- 1,526 ac Four tracts east of Farm-to-Market (FM) 2373 near Pantex Plant area, and
- 1,077 ac Pantex Lake, located approximately 2.5 mi northeast of Pantex Plant area.

There are no government industrial operations conducted at the Pantex Lake property. The remaining 5,800 ac are located south of the main Pantex Plant area, and are leased from Texas Tech University (TTU) for a safety and security buffer zone.

#### 1.2 FACILITY HISTORY AND MISSION

Pantex Plant is a government-owned, contractor-operated facility. DOE oversees the operation of Pantex Plant through the National Nuclear Security Agency/Production Office (NNSA/PO or NPO). At the end of 2020, approximately 5,100 persons (including Pantex Plant contracted employees, federal employees, and subcontracted employees) were employed at Pantex Plant. Mason & Hanger Corporation (MHC) was the Operation & Maintenance (O&M) contractor of Pantex Plant from 1956 through May 1999 when it became a subsidiary of Day & Zimmermann, Inc. (D&Z). MHC (D&Z) was replaced as contractor by BWXT Pantex, LLC on February 1, 2001. BWXT Pantex combined elements of BWXT Technologies, Honeywell, and Bechtel. Effective in January 2008, the name of the company was officially changed to Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Pantex, LLC (B&W Pantex). On July 1, 2014, Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) became the O&M contractor of Pantex Plant.

From 1942 to 1945, the U.S. used the Pantex Ordnance Plant for loading conventional artillery shells and bombs. In 1951, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) arranged to begin rehabilitating portions of the original Pantex Plant and constructing new facilities for nuclear weapons operations. In 1974, the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) replaced the AEC and took responsibility for the operation of Pantex Plant, and in 1977, the ERDA was replaced by the DOE. In 2000, the DOE created and designated the NNSA to manage the nuclear weapons facilities and laboratories.

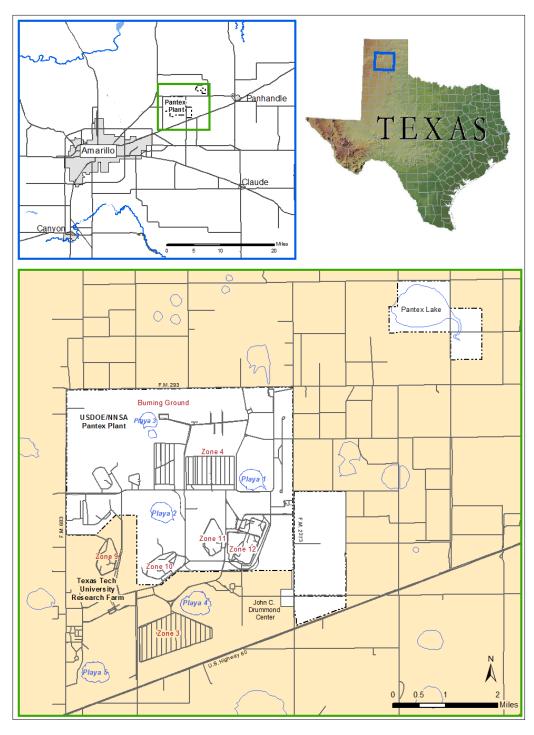


Figure 1.1 – Pantex Plant Site Location and Zones

Pantex Plant

The primary mission of Pantex Plant is to:

- Provide a nuclear deterrent for our nation and allies as the nation's primary site for assembly and disassembly of nuclear weapons for the nation's stockpile.
- Ensure our stockpile is strong and viable by evaluating, repairing, and retrofitting the nuclear weapons in the stockpile.
- Reduce the total nuclear weapons in the stockpile through the dismantling of retired weapons and dispositions of various components and materials.
- Support the stockpile as the High Explosives Center of Excellence that develops, tests, and fabricates high explosives components for nuclear weapons and to support DOE initiatives.

Weapon assembly, disassembly, maintenance, and evaluation activities involve short-term handling (but not processing) of encapsulated tritium, uranium, and plutonium, as well as a variety of nonradioactive hazardous or toxic chemicals. In addition, environmental restoration of the facility is an integral part of the DOE environmental management's mission to clean up its sites.

#### 1.3 FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Pantex Plant is composed of several functional areas, commonly referred to as numbered zones (refer to the lower portion of Figure 1.1). Included within the zones are a weapons assembly/disassembly area, a weapons staging area, an area for experimental explosives development, a drinking water treatment plant, a sanitary wastewater treatment facility (WWTF), a vehicle maintenance facility and administrative areas. Other functional areas include a utilities area for steam and compressed air, an explosives test-firing facility, a Burning Ground for thermally processing (i.e., burning or flashing) explosive materials, pump and treat groundwater remediation facilities, several agricultural tracts which are irrigated via a subsurface fluid distribution system, and landfills. Overall, there are approximately 590 buildings at Pantex Plant.

The weapons assembly/disassembly area covers approximately 200 ac and contains more than 100 buildings. In this area, nuclear weapons can be assembled from nuclear components, parts received from other DOE plants, chemical explosive components, and metal parts fabricated at Pantex Plant. The weapons can also be disassembled in this area.

One zone is used for general warehousing and temporary holding (or staging) of weapons and weapon components awaiting movement to another area for modification, repair, or disassembly; for shipment to other DOE facilities for reworking; for shipment to a facility for sanitization; or for shipment to the military. The warehouse area is also used for interim storage of plutonium components from disassembly operations.

The explosives development area consists of facilities for synthesizing, formulating, and characterizing experimental explosives. This zone is under construction to become the Pantex Plant Center of Excellence for high explosives.

The explosives test-firing facility (commonly called "firing sites") includes several test-shot stands and small-quantity, test-firing chambers for measuring detonation properties of explosive components. The firing sites also include support facilities for setting up test-shots, interpreting results, and sanitizing components.

The Burning Ground is used for processing explosives, explosive components, and explosives-contaminated materials and waste by means of controlled open burning and flashing.

The land disposal area, north of Zone 10, is divided into two landfill sites. One currently receives nonhazardous solid wastes, primarily construction debris. The other receives nonhazardous Solid Waste

Management Unit debris. Before 1989, Pantex Plant's domestic solid waste was sent to an on-site sanitary landfill for disposal. Since then, this waste has been processed to remove recyclable materials. The non-recyclable material is sent to an off-site landfill. Practices preclude disposal of hazardous materials in on-site landfills; therefore, hazardous materials are transported off-site for disposal in accordance with applicable regulations.

Wastewater generated at Pantex Plant is routed through a wastewater collection system to a WWTF. On October 6, 2003, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) issued Pantex Plant a Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) that authorizes beneficial reuse of the wastewater for the purpose of agricultural irrigation via a subsurface fluid distribution system. Construction of the subsurface distribution system was completed prior to the end of 2004. During 2017, major filter leaks developed and use of the system was temporarily discontinued. Repairs are being made so that the treated effluent from the WWTF and from the perched aquifer pump and treat systems will once again be discharged to this subsurface irrigation system. Pantex Plant is also authorized to discharge wastewater to an on-site playa lake pursuant to a Texas Water Quality Permit (TWQP) issued by the TCEQ.

The drinking water system, common to many zones, consists of production wells, water treatment/pumping facilities, storage tanks, and associated distribution lines. This system also supplies water to the high-pressure fire protection system.

Land east of FM 2373 has not been assigned a formal zone designation; however, wind turbines for the generation of electrical power and associated support equipment have been installed for beneficial purposes.

#### 1.4 CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

The area's climate is classified as semi-arid. It is characterized by hot summers and relatively cold winters. It experiences large variations in daily temperatures, low relative humidity, and irregularly spaced moderate rainfall. The average annual liquid rainfall is 20.36 inches (in) (DOCa). Approximately 70 percent of the average annual rainfall occurs from April to September. This is considered growing season precipitation, and is commonly associated with thunderstorm activity. The average annual snowfall is 17.8 in (DOCa). Snow usually melts within a few days after it falls. Heavier snowfalls of 10 in or more, usually with near blizzard conditions, average once every five years and last two to three days. The estimated potential gross lake surface evaporation in the area is about 55 in (Bomar, 1995) or 270 percent of the average annual precipitation.

The Amarillo area is subject to extreme and rapid temperature changes, especially during the fall and winter months when cold fronts from the northern Rocky Mountain and Plains states sweep across the area. Substantial temperature drops within a 12-hour period are not uncommon (DOC<sub>a</sub>).

Humidity averages are low, occasionally dropping below 20 percent in the spring. Low humidity moderates the effect of summer afternoon high temperatures and permits evaporative cooling systems to be very effective. Severe local storms are infrequent throughout the cool season, but occasional thunderstorms with large hail, lightning, and damaging wind occur during the warm season, especially during the spring. These storms are often accompanied by heavy rain, which can produce local flooding in low-lying areas.

Pantex Plant is located in an area with a relatively high frequency of tornadoes, convective wind events<sup>1</sup> and hail. An average of 17 tornadoes occurred each year in the 20 counties of the Texas Panhandle and the adjacent three counties of the Oklahoma Panhandle during the period between 1950 and 2020 (DOCb).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> High-speed, straight-line winds produced in the downdraft region of a thunderstorm.

While the threat of tornadoes is real, tornado occurrences in Amarillo are generally rare. Tornadoes are most common from April to June. There were a total of eight tornadoes reported in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles during 2020 (DOCb).

Based upon a review of the several monthly preliminary climatological data forms prepared by the National Weather Service (NWS) Forecast Office for Amarillo (located at Rick Husband International Airport), the mean temperature at the official NWS location during 2020 was 58.8 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), slightly above the normal annual mean temperature in Amarillo of 58.1°F. During 2020, the official NWS rain gauge recorded 11.9 in of precipitation (DOCa). Table 1.1 is a compilation of climatological data (temperature, relative humidity, precipitation; including the water equivalent of any snowfall and wind speed) for 2020 from Amarillo Airport NWS meteorological instrumentation. The range of mean monthly temperatures and the monthly precipitation totals as measured at the Amarillo Airport NWS site are shown in Figures 1.3 and 1.4.

Pantex Plant maintains a meteorological monitoring station on the northeast corner of the Plant. The data from Pantex Plant's meteorological tower are compared with those obtained from the Amarillo Airport NWS site located approximately 10 mi to the west-southwest of Pantex Plant's meteorological tower to determine if the instrumentation is operating correctly. On a monthly basis, data outliers are identified and, when necessary, eliminated from the meteorological data set.

The frequencies of wind direction and wind speed during 2020 near Pantex Plant, at the NWS Amarillo located approximately 10 mi SW of the Pantex Plant, are illustrated by the wind rose in Figure 1.2. The figure indicates that, as in most previous years, a large percentage (approximately 55 percent) of the winds blew from southerly directions during the year.

#### 1.5 GEOLOGY

The primary surface deposits at Pantex Plant are the Pullman and Randall soil series, which grade downward to the Blackwater Draw Formation. This formation consists of about 50 ft. of interbedded silty clays with caliche and very fine sands with caliche.

Underlying the Blackwater Draw Formation, the Ogallala Formation consists of interbedded sands, silts, clays, and gravels. The base of the Ogallala Formation is an irregular surface that represents the pre-Ogallala topography. As a result, depths to the base of the Ogallala vary. At Pantex Plant, the vertical distance to the base of the Ogallala varies from 300 ft. at the southwest corner to 720 ft. at the northeast corner of the property (Purtymun and Becker, 1982).

Underlying the Ogallala Formation is sedimentary rock of the Dockum Group, consisting of shale, clayey siltstone, and sandstone. The deep geology (4,000 ft.) below the Pantex Plant has a major influence on the natural radiation environment as a result of radon released from the underlying granitic rocks.

#### 1.6 HYDROLOGY

The closest riverine water feature on the Southern High Plains is the Canadian River, which flows southwest to northeast approximately 17 miles north of Pantex Plant. Surface waters at Pantex Plant do not drain into this system, but for the most part discharge into on-site playas. Storm water from agricultural areas at the

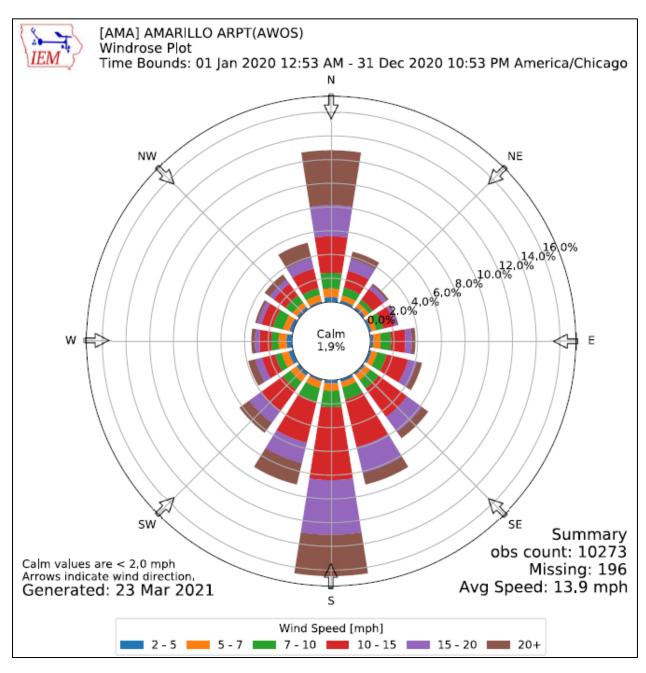


Figure 1.2 – Pantex Plant Annual Wind Rose for 2020 (Iowa Environmental Mesonet)

Pantex Plant

Table 1.1 – Pantex Plant 2020 Climatological Data by Month

	Temperature (°F)		Mean	Dugainitation8	Wind Speed (mph)		
Month	Maximum	Minimum	Mean Monthly	Relative Humidity (percent)	Precipitation <sup>a</sup> (inches)	Mean	Maximum
January	70	16	40.2	56	0.25	12.5	46.1
February	78	11	37.9	56	0.39	13.2	57.9
March	88	29	52.3	55	1.82	14.3	53.0
April	90	25	55.6	59	0.12	14.3	53.0
May	94	39	67.0	52	0.43	13.8	67.1
June	100	45	78.5	67	2.79	16.8	57.9
July	110	56	82.0	56	1.87	12.0	53.0
August	105	61	80.3	49	1.86	12.8	68.0
September	98	37	67.1	54	0.26	11.9	46.1
October	94	18	55.7	57	1.61	14.2	51.0
November	86	20	50.62	58	0.32	13.9	57.0
December	70	13	38.34	59	0.19	11.8	53.0
Annual			58.8	56	11.91	13.42	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes water equivalent of snowfall.

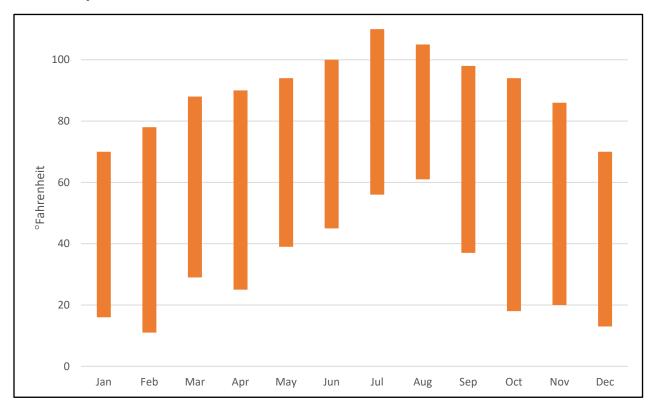


Figure 1.3 – Pantex Plant Monthly Temperature Range During 2020

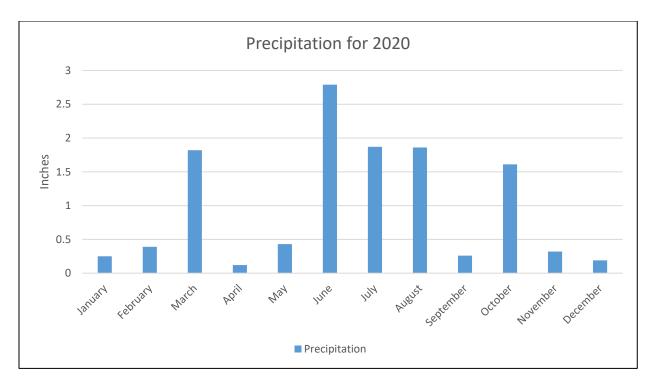


Figure 1.4 – Pantex Plant Precipitation During 2020

periphery of Pantex Plant drain into off-site playas. From the various playas, water either evaporates or infiltrates the soil. Two principal subsurface water-bearing units exist beneath Pantex Plant and adjacent areas: the Ogallala Aquifer and the underlying Dockum Group Aquifer. The perched aquifer lies within the vadose, or unsaturated, zone above the Ogallala Aquifer. The vadose zone consists of as much as 500 ft. of sediment that lies between the land surface and the Ogallala Aquifer.

#### 1.6.1 Perched Aquifer

The perched aquifer sits within the Ogallala Formation. It is present in the vadose zone, above the main zone of saturation, and is discontinuous. Perched aquifers form above clayey layers that have low permeability. Depths from the surface to the perched aquifer range from 209 to 279 ft. Data collected from wells at Pantex Plant indicate that the zone of saturation in the perched aquifer varies in thickness by as much as 50 to 80 ft.

#### 1.6.2 Ogallala Aquifer

The main Ogallala Aquifer lies beneath the perched aquifer. Depth to the main Ogallala Aquifer ranges from 335 to 500 ft. The saturated thickness varies from 39 to 400 ft. (PGCD, 1980). The aquifer is defined as the basal water-saturated portion of the Ogallala Formation, and is a principal water supply on the Southern High Plains. The regional gradient of the Ogallala Aquifer beneath Pantex Plant trends from the southwest to the northeast, where the zone of saturation is thickest. Pantex Plant's production wells are located in this northeast area. The City of Amarillo's Carson County Well Field is located north and northeast of Pantex Plant's well field.

#### 1.6.3 Dockum Group Aquifer

The Dockum Group Aquifer lies under the Ogallala Formation at Pantex Plant. Water contained in sandstone layers within the Dockum Group supplies domestic and livestock wells south and southeast of

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Pantex Plant. Other wells reaching the Dockum Group Aquifer are located 10 mi south and west of Pantex Plant. The aquifer may be semi-confined with respect to the overlying Ogallala Aquifer because of lateral variations in the Ogallala and shale layers within the Dockum Group.

#### 1.6.4 Water Use

The closest riverine water feature near Pantex Plant, the Canadian River, flows into the man-made Lake Meredith approximately 25 mi north of Pantex Plant. Many local communities use water from Lake Meredith for domestic purposes, when the water depth is sufficient. The major groundwater source near Pantex Plant is the Ogallala Aquifer. It is used as a domestic source by numerous municipalities and industries in the High Plains. Historical groundwater withdrawals, and long-term pumping from the Ogallala Aquifer in Carson County and the surrounding eight-county area, have exceeded the natural recharge rate of the Ogallala Aquifer. These overdrafts have removed large volumes of groundwater from recoverable storage, and have caused substantial water-level declines.

The large demands of the Amarillo area, which are primarily agricultural, are responsible for the drop in the water table. From 1988 to 1997, the average change in "depth to water" from 1,209 Ogallala Aquifer observation wells in the Panhandle was 1.49 ft. Groundwater withdrawals from the Ogallala Aquifer in Carson County have averaged approximately 39 billion gallons (gal.) over the last several years. This groundwater withdrawal rate is more than 10 times greater than the estimated annual recharge rate of 358 million gal. Groundwater withdrawal rates are expected to decline each decade to approximately 21 billion gal. by 2060 (Crowell, 2007).

The City of Amarillo is the largest municipal Ogallala Aquifer water user in the area. It pumps water for public use from the Carson County Well Field, located north and northeast of Pantex Plant. Pantex Plant obtains water from five wells in the northeast corner of the site. In 2020, Pantex Plant pumped approximately 112 million gal of water from the Ogallala Aquifer. Most of the water used at Pantex Plant is for domestic purposes. Through an agreement with TTU, Pantex Plant provides water to the adjacent TTU research farm properties for domestic and livestock uses.

Pantex Plant reviews emerging contaminants to potentially add to sampling lists when a contaminant could be of concern. Emerging contaminants have been detected in drinking water supplies around the U.S., and may pose a risk to the environment or human health; however, risk factors are not fully known. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s, and are (or have been) found in many consumer products like cookware, food packaging, and stain repellants. PFAS manufacturing and processing facilities, airports, and military installations that use firefighting foams are some of the main sources of PFAS (EPAa). Pantex Plant currently has contracts with two labs with PFAS analysis capabilities.

#### 1.7 SEISMOLOGY

Seismic events of low magnitude have occurred infrequently in the region. The stress conditions at the site are such that the possibility of high-order seismic events is extremely unlikely. A qualitative understanding of the present conditions at Pantex Plant indicates that anticipated seismic activity is well below the level that is necessary to cause significant damage to structures at the Plant. The potential for local or regional earthquakes (with a magnitude great enough to damage structures at the site to the degree that hazardous materials would be released) is extremely low (McGrath, 1995).

#### 1.8 LAND USE AND POPULATION

The land around Pantex Plant is used mainly for winter wheat and grain sorghum farming, for ranching, and for drilling for oil and gas. Although dryland farming is dominant, some fields are irrigated from the Ogallala Aquifer or, less commonly, from local playas. Ranching in the region consists of cow-calf and yearling operations. The economy of the rural Panhandle region depends primarily on agriculture, but diversification has occurred in the more populated counties of the region and includes manufacturing, distribution, food processing, and medical services. Nationally known businesses that are major employers in the greater Amarillo area include Bell Helicopter; Tyson Foods (a single rail beef-slaughtering operation); Pantex Plant; Owens-Corning Fiberglass (a fiberglass reinforcement Plant); ASARCO (a large silver and copper refiner); and Cactus Feeders (one of the largest cattle-feeding operations in the world). Conoco-Phillips Petroleum and Xcel Energy are also major industrial presences in the Panhandle region.

A land-use census of the residential population surrounding Pantex Plant showed that most of the population is located west-southwest of Pantex Plant in the Amarillo metropolitan area. Population data from the 2010 census were used to generate Figure 1.5 (DOCc), showing the population distribution at 5-mi intervals within 50 mi of Pantex Plant. According to the 2010 census, the total population within 50 mi of Pantex Plant is 316,132 people.

The total population of the 20 county area (defined as the Texas Panhandle) surrounding Pantex Plant is 389,721. The population of the City of Amarillo (190,695 in 2010) represents approximately 49 percent of the counties' population. Approximately 32 percent of the population lives in other incorporated cities, and approximately 19 percent reside in unincorporated areas. The communities of Pampa, Borger, Hereford, Dumas, and Canyon each have populations between 13,000 and 18,000. The 20 county areas can be described as sparsely populated, with Potter and Randall counties being the exception. Excluding Potter and Randall Counties, the general population density of each county ranges from 12 to 132 persons per square mile. Potter, Randall, Carson, and Armstrong Counties make up the Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area. Hutchinson County (in which Borger is located) and Gray County (in which Pampa is located) are now classified as micropolitan statistical areas (DOCc). Hartley, Moore, Roberts, Oldham, Deaf Smith, Donley, Dallam, Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hemphill, Wheeler, and Collingsworth are the remaining counties of the defined area. The populations contained in the northerly portions of Castro, Swisher, and Briscoe Counties are also included in the 50 mi population estimate described above.

#### 1.9 ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

The remainder of this report is organized into twelve chapters and nine appendices:

<u>Chapter 2</u> discusses regulatory requirements for environmental compliance during 2020 and describes Pantex Plant's compliance-related issues and activities. It presents results of various regulatory inspections and environmental activities and lists the environmental permits issued to Pantex Plant.

<u>Chapter 3</u> provides a brief summary of the environmental programs that are conducted at Pantex Plant. Overviews are provided for environmental management, pollution prevention (P2), natural and cultural resources management, environmental restoration, and sustainability initiatives.

<u>Chapter 4</u> describes the environmental radiological monitoring program, which deals with the potential exposure of the public and the environment to radiation resulting from Pantex Plant operations. Also

Pantex Plant

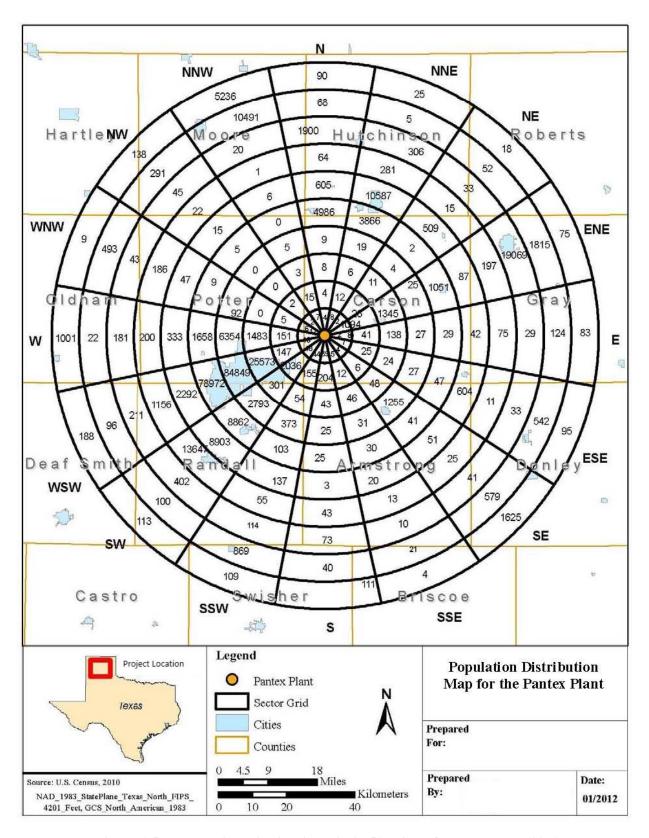


Figure 1.5 – Population Distribution within 50 Miles of Pantex Plant (2010)

discussed are results of the environmental Thermoluminescent Dosimetry (TLD) program and other radiological monitoring programs for various environmental media (i.e., air, groundwater, surface water, plants, and animals).

<u>Chapters 5 through 12</u> discuss radiological and non-radiological monitoring and surveillance programs for individual environmental media. Chapter 5 discusses the air-monitoring program. The groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, and surface water monitoring programs are discussed in Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9, respectively. Chapter 10 describes the soil-monitoring program. Faunal and floral monitoring are discussed in Chapters 11 and 12, respectively. Each of these chapters includes a description of the monitoring program for the specific medium and an analysis of radiological (if available) and non-radiological data for the 2020 samples.

<u>Chapter 13</u> reviews Pantex Plant's quality assurance program for environmental monitoring efforts, as initiated in response to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 830.120 and DOE Order 414.1D (DOEd). The chapter also includes an analysis of quality control (QC) samples collected during 2020 and a data validation summary.

Appendix A lists all of the birds sighted at Pantex Plant.

Appendix B provides the 2020 drinking water sampling analytical results.

<u>Appendix C</u> lists all of the analytes for which environmental analyses were conducted.

Appendix D provides the 2020 soil sampling analytical results.

<u>Appendix E</u> is a glossary that lists and defines key terms utilized in this report.

Appendix F lists relevant elements and chemicals and the respective abbreviations and formulas.

Appendix G lists the relevant units of measure and the respective abbreviations.

Appendix H provides helpful conversion information.

Appendix I provides references.

# **Chapter 2 - Compliance Summary**

The Pantex Plant policy is to conduct all operations in compliance with applicable environmental statutes, regulations, and the requirements of the various authorizations issued to the Plant. This chapter describes and reviews current issues, initiatives, and clean-up agreements in place, regulatory authorizations issued to Pantex Plant, and measures to support the Department of Energy (DOE) environmental performance indicators. It also summarizes the compliance status of Pantex Plant for 2020.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- Pantex Plant tracked emissions from 30 different processes at specific locations and grouped sources across the site. Emissions remained well below the certified and authorized Potentialto-Emit (PTE) levels for each of the pollutants tracked.
- Pantex Plant is in compliance with all provisions of the applicable regulations and issued permits.
- The annual Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) waste site inspection was conducted by the TCEQ on August 4-5, 2020. It concluded with no findings or issues identified.

# 2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Various government entities have regulatory authority over and environmental interests in the operations at Pantex Plant. Table 2.1 presents environmental regulations applicable to operations at Pantex Plant.

Table 2.1 - Major Environmental Regulations Applicable to Pantex Plant

Regulatory Description	Authority	Codification	Status
CLEAN AIR ACT (CAA)	Federal: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Federal: 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50-82	Pantex Plant complies with permits and Permits-by-Rule issued or promulgated by the TCEQ to authorize releases of pollutants to the atmosphere.
CAA and the Texas Clean Air Act (TCAA), through their implementing regulations, control the release of regulated emissions to the atmosphere and provide for the maintenance of ambient	State: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS)	State: Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 101 through Chapter 122 (30 TAC 101-122) & 305 25 TAC 295 (Asbestos only)	Pantex Plant complies with the applicable requirements codified in the CFR and TAC (including those dealing with emissions of radionuclides at DOE facilities (40 CFR 61, Subpart H).
air quality.  CLEAN AIR ACT (CAA) (continued)		Pantex Plant is a self-certified "Minor" emission source under the Federal Operating Permit program.	

Regulatory	Authority	Codification	Status
Description  ARCHAEOLOGICAL  RESOURCE PROTECTION  ACT (ARPA)  ARPA provides for the protection of archeological resources and sites located on public and Native American lands.	Federal: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  State: State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	Federal: Title 36 CFR Chapter 79 (39 CFR 79) 43 CFR 7	All archeological surveys and testing at Pantex Plant conformed to ARPA standards.
COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT (CERCLA)  CERCLA provides the regulatory framework for the remediation of releases of hazardous substances and cleanup of inactive hazardous substance disposal sites. Section 107 provides for the protection of natural resources on publicly owned property through designation of Natural Resource Trustees.	Federal: EPA	Federal: 40 CFR 300, 302, 355, & 370	Pantex Plant has been on the National Priorities List (NPL) since 1994. The EPA, TCEQ, and National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office (NPO) have signed an Interagency Agreement (IAG) concerning the conduct of the remediation at Pantex Plant.  A Record of Decision was issued and approved in 2008 and Pantex Plant was added to the Construction Completion List in 2010. Interested Co-Trustees have been involved in the planning and completion of the Ecological Risk Assessment for Pantex Plant, and selection of the final remedy. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry published its final report Public Health Assessment-Pantex Plant in September 1998.
ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)  ESA prohibits any entity or person from taking any action that would jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a critical habitat.	Federal: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Federal: 50 CFR 10; 50 CFR 17; Title 16 of the United States Code, Chapter 153 (16 USC 153), et seq.	Ongoing and proposed actions are assessed as to their potential adverse effects on threatened and endangered species.
PROTECTION of ENDANGERED SPECIES (STATE)	State: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	State: TPW Code, 68	Ongoing and proposed actions are assessed as to their potential adverse effects on threatened and endangered species.

Regulatory			
Description	Authority	Codification	Status
FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT (FIFRA)  FIFRA governs the manufacture and use of biocides, specifically the use, storage, and disposal of all pesticides and pesticide containers and residues.	Federal: EPA  State: Texas Department of Agriculture; Structural Pest Control Board	Federal: 40 CFR 170-171  State: 4 TAC 7.1-7.40; Structural Pest Control Act (Art. 135b-5)	State-licensed personnel apply pesticides in accordance with applicable regulations.  Pantex Plant implemented a land-applied chemical use plan in 1996. The plan was updated in 2016.
FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT / CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)  The Texas Water Code, through its implementing regulations, regulates the quality of water discharged to waters of the State of Texas.	Federal: EPA State: TCEQ	Federal: 40 CFR 120-136 & 40 CFR 300 - 583  State: 30 TAC 205-299, 305, 309, 317 & 319	As currently defined, Pantex Plant does not discharge its wastewaters to 'Waters of the United States'.  Pantex Plant discharges its industrial wastewaters pursuant to Permits WQ0002296000, WQ0004397000, and Underground Injection control (UIC) 5W2000017.  Pantex Plant has coverage under the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Construction General Permit, for storm water via Permit No. TXR150000. Pantex complies with the requirements of the permit whenever applicable to a project. During 2020, three projects filed for coverage under the General Permit.  Pantex Plant operates under the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water from Industrial Sources via
MEDICAL WASTE	Federal: U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)	Federal: 49 CFR 173	Permit No. TXR05CD31.  Pantex Plant manages medical waste in accordance
	State: TDSHS	State: 30 TAC 330.1201-1221	with applicable regulations.

Regulatory		G. Wei	a
Description	Authority	Codification	Status
MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT  All migratory birds, their parts, and their nests were fully protected as required by statute.	Federal: USFWS	Federal: 50 CFR 10 pursuant to 16 USC 704- 707 and 712	Actions being considered at Pantex Plant are reviewed through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, which considers impacts to migratory species.  Nuisance and other bird situations are handled within compliance of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
PROTECTION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS (STATE)	State: TPWD	State: TPW Code 64 (2-5, 7, & 26-27)	Actions being considered at Pantex Plant are reviewed through the NEPA process, which considers impacts to migratory species.  Nuisance and other bird situations are handled within compliance of state regulations.
Executive Order 13186: Responsibilities for Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds (2001) Establishes commitment to migratory bird protection, management, research, and outreach on federal properties. The order reaffirms relationship between the USFWS and other federal agencies.	Federal: DOE	Volume 66 Federal Register, page 3853 (66 FR 3853), 2001	Actions being considered at Pantex Plant are reviewed through the NEPA process, which considers impacts to migratory species. This Executive Order (EO) adds additional language beyond the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to consider impacts to habitat. It encourages partnerships, research, and outreach, dealing with migratory birds.
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)  NEPA establishes a broad national policy to conduct federal activities in ways that promote the general welfare of the environment. NEPA procedures must ensure that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken.	Federal: DOE; Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ)	Federal: 10 CFR 1021, 40 CFR 1500-1508	In 2020, 14 Standard NEPA Review Forms, 16 Internal NEPA Review Forms, and four amendments were prepared.  In 2020, one Environmental Assessment (EAs) was approved in 2020.

Regulatory		G 1100 41	G
Description	Authority	Codification	Status
PROTECTION OF BIRDS, NONGAME SPECIES, AND FUR-BEARING ANIMALS	Federal: USFWS State: TPWD	Federal: 50 CFR 10 State: TPWD Code 67 and 71	Actions being considered at Pantex Plant are reviewed through the NEPA process,
Requires the protection of all indigenous birds and ring-necked pheasants, non-game species, and fur-bearing animals except where exceptions are stated in the TPWD code.			which considers impacts to all protected species.
SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT (SDWA)	Federal: EPA State: TCEQ	Federal: 40 CFR 141-143  State: 30 TAC 290	Pantex Plant operates a Non- Transient, Non-Community Public Water Supply System
SDWA and the Texas Water Code govern public water supplies.			(No. 0330007). The system is recognized as a Superior Public Water System (PWS) by the TCEQ.
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND	Federal: EPA	Federal: 40 CFR 260-280	Pantex Plant is defined as a large-quantity generator.
RECOVERY ACT (RCRA)	State: TCEQ	State: 30 TAC 305, 327, and 335	Permit HW-50284 authorizes the management
RCRA and the Texas Solid Waste Disposal Act govern the generation, storage, handling, treatment, and disposal of solid waste,			of hazardous wastes in various storage and processing units at Pantex Plant. HW-50284 addresses corrective action
including hazardous waste. These statutes and regulations also regulate underground			requirements at Pantex Plant.
storage tanks and spill cleanup.		State: 30 TAC 334	Pantex Plant operates five regulated underground storage tanks.
TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA)	Federal: EPA	Federal: 40 CFR 700-766 & 10 CFR 850	Pantex Plant manages polychlorinated biphenyl
TSCA requires the characterization of toxicity and other harmful properties of manufactured substances and regulates the manufacture, distribution, and			(PCBs), asbestos, beryllium, and chemicals in compliance with applicable regulations.
use of regulated materials.			

# 2.2 CLEAN AIR ACT

Most requirements of the Federal CAA in Texas are implemented under the TCAA, which is administered by the TCEQ, as approved by the EPA through the Texas State Implementation Plan. The exceptions to this delegation of authority from the EPA include: 40 CFR 61, Subpart H (Emissions of Radionuclides Other Than Radon from DOE Facilities); 40 CFR 61, Subpart M (National Emissions Standard for Asbestos); and regulations dealing with stratospheric ozone protection and greenhouse gasses. The primary regulatory authority for 40 CFR 61, Subpart M, is delegated to the TDSHS.

### 2.2.1 Emissions of Radionuclides Other Than Radon from DOE Facilities

According to the standard established in 40 CFR 61.92, emissions of radionuclides to the ambient air from DOE facilities shall not exceed those amounts that would cause any member of the public to receive an effective dose equivalent of 10 millirem per year (mrem/yr.) or 0.10 milliSievert per year (mSv/yr.). Based upon evaluations using the most conservative assumptions about the emissions of radionuclides from several Pantex Plant locations that have the potential to emit radioactive materials, Pantex has determined that the maximum effective dose equivalent that any member of the public received in 2020 was 7.23x10<sup>-7</sup> mrem/yr. (7.23x10<sup>-9</sup> mSv/yr.). Accordingly, Pantex Plant is in compliance with the EPA standard. Continuous emission monitoring, as described in 40 CFR 61.93, is not required of any source at Pantex Plant, based on each source's emission potential. Pantex Plant performs periodic confirmatory measurements and modeling to assure compliance with 40 CFR 61 Subpart H regulations.

In accordance with 40 CFR 61.96, all new construction projects and activities (or modifications to existing structures or activities) that have the potential to emit radioactive materials are evaluated to determine if the effective dose equivalent, caused by all emissions, is less than one percent of the 40 CFR 61.92 standard (i.e., is less than 0.1 mrem/yr. [0.001 mSv/yr.]). During 2020, none of the evaluations resulted in the identification of exceedances of this reduced standard. Accordingly, there was no need to make an application for approval or notifications of startup to the EPA under the provisions of 40 CFR 61.96.

## 2.2.2 National Emissions Standard for Asbestos

Each year, Pantex Plant files a *Notification of Consolidated Small Operations Removing Asbestos-Containing Material* with the TDSHS for maintenance activities to be conducted by Pantex Plant in the next CY. To verify that operations are consistent with the notification, Pantex Plant keeps a log of all its affected maintenance activities to track quantities of material disturbed.

Subcontractors at Pantex Plant are required to prepare separate notifications for work that qualifies as "demolition" or "renovation" as defined in 40 CFR 61, Subpart M, and 25 TAC 295.61, which implements the Texas Asbestos Health Protection Act. Separate notifications are also required for jobs conducted by Pantex Plant personnel that involve amounts that would require job-specific notifications. Pantex Plant maintains the required certifications for the personnel who plan, oversee, and conduct these efforts. By filing the required forms and maintaining the described records, Pantex Plant demonstrates that it is in compliance with 40 CFR 61, Subpart M.

### 2.2.3 Chemical Accident Prevention

Pantex Plant has established and maintains controls on the introduction of new chemicals to any area of the Plant. Through this process, Pantex Plant continues to demonstrate that it has control of the chemicals in use. It continues to ensure that the quantities of chemicals at any location are below the threshold quantities stated in 40 CFR 68, thus, exempting Pantex Plant from having to perform risk management planning.

# 2.2.4 Ozone Depleting Substances

At Pantex Plant, licensed technicians install and maintain stationary and motor vehicle air conditioning systems. Technicians use approved recycling devices as needed when conducting these efforts. Pantex Plant maintains records of training and maintenance activities to demonstrate compliance with these regulations (40 CFR 82).

# 2.2.5 Air Quality Permits and Authorizations

Pantex Plant continues to use a combination of an air quality permit issued under 30 TAC 116 (Permit No. 84802), de minimis activities as authorized by 30 TAC 116.119, and authorizations issued under 30 TAC 106 (Permits by Rule [PBR]) to authorize operations conducted at the Plant.

# 2.2.6 Federal Operating Permit Program

The Title V Federal Operating Permit Program is administered and enforced by the EPA Region 6 Office and the TCEQ. During 2020, Pantex Plant maintained documentation demonstrating that it was not a major source, as defined by the Federal Operating Permit Program.

# 2.2.7 Air Quality Investigation

The TCEQ did not perform an air quality-related compliance inspection of Pantex Plant during 2020.

# 2.2.8 Emission Tracking and Calculation

Pantex Plant is subject to the Federal CAA and the state of Texas regulations under 30 TAC 101, 106, 111, 112, 113, 116, 117, 118, and 122. The main scope or function of Pantex Plant's air emission tracking system is to monitor process emissions to (a) maintain the facility designation of "Synthetic Minor" under the federal Title V program, and (b) demonstrate compliance with authorizations issued to Pantex Plant. Pantex Plant initiated a comprehensive system for tracking emissions from specific sources (facilities) in September of 1999, and has continued to update the tracking process to comply with changing regulations and best management practices. Pantex Plant processes that have emissions are conducted under the authority of various regulations and authorizations [Permits, Standard Exemptions (SE), and PBR]. Table 2.2, below, identifies the tracked emission sources at Pantex Plant and their authorizations.

**Table 2.2 – Tracked Emission Sources at Pantex Plant** 

Process:a	Authorization Permit #	Standard Exemption <sup>b</sup>	Permit By Rule
HE Synthesis Facility	Permit 84802		
HE Fabrication	Permit 84802		
Firing Site Activities	Permit 84802		
Boiler House	Permit 84802		
Stationary Standby Emergency Engines	Permit 84802		
Boiler House, Diesel Storage	Permit 84802		
Burning Ground Activities	Permit 84802		
Hazardous Waste Storage	Permit 84802		
Hazardous Waste Processing	Permit 84802		
Welding and Cutting		SE 39	
Dual Chamber Incinerator	Permit 84802		
Plastics Shop	Permit 84802		
Epoxy Foam Production	Registration 43702		PBR 262
Component Sanitization	Registration 41577		PBR 261 & 262
Machining		SE 41	PBR 432 & 452
Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF) Fueling Operations	Permit 84802		
Pantex Plant Site-wide Cooling Towers	Permit 84802		

Process:a	Authorization Permit #	Standard Exemption <sup>b</sup>	Permit By Rule
Hazardous Waste Treatment &	Permit 84802		
Processing Facility (HWTPF)			
Liquid Processing Facility			
Stationary Standby Emergency	Permit 84802		
Engines			
Painting Facilities	Registration 32674, 52638, 52639	SE 75	
Pressing & Transferring HE &		SE 106 & 118	
Mock			
Burning Ground-Soil Vapor	Registration 70894		PBR 533
Extraction			
Miscellaneous Chemical		SE 34	PBR 106.122, PBR
Operations: e.g., Emissions of HAP			106.433,
from Laboratories, Small Coating			de minimis
Operations and Fugitive Sources.			
Chemical Transfer Operations	Registration 72373		PBR 262, 472, and 473
Drum Management Operations	Registration 92876		PBR 261, 262, and 512
High Explosive Pressing Facility	Registration 145558		PBR 261, 262
Emergency Water Pump	Registration 87270		PBR 512

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Authorization dates (the effective dates) can be found in Table 2.5.

# 2.2.8.1 Program Structure and Requirements

Pantex Plant is categorized as a Synthetic Minor air emission source. To remain in this category, the following threshold limits cannot be exceeded: 25 tons per year of any combination of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs); 10 tons per year of any single HAP; or 100 tons per year of any non-HAP air pollutant. Under this designation, a facility is not required to declare its emissions every year to the TCEQ; however, 30 TAC 122.122 requires a certification of PTE when significant changes of emissions take place. The PTE, once submitted to the TCEQ, becomes a federally enforceable document for allowable emissions. Essentially, the PTE establishes emission limits that are administratively set by Pantex Plant and authorized/enforceable by the TCEQ and the EPA.

Pantex Plant maintains a tracking process to verify compliance with certified emissions limits. This tracking process is implemented through Air Quality Management Requirement (AQMR) documents, which are placed into the every-day operational procedures/activities that have either point source or fugitive emissions. AQMRs are management-driven documents that outline regulatory requirements for operators to follow based upon process activities and the requirements of the federal and state air emissions regulations. The approved AQMRs incorporate sections of the authorization that outline the internal reporting and recordkeeping requirements for process operators. Operational data are gathered by process operators and then input on a monthly basis into enhanced commercial off-the-shelf computer software. The software uses emission factors from source tests, manufacturer's data, and EPA documentation to calculate hourly, calendar year and rolling 12-month emissions.

### 2.2.8.2 Types and Tracking of Emissions

During 2020, Pantex Plant tracked the emissions from 30 different processes both at specific locations and grouped sources across the Plant. Pantex Plant personnel responsible for air program compliance gathered facility data on emissions of common air pollutants including nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon dioxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), sulfur oxides (SOx), particulate matter (PM), and HAPs. The data,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Standard Exemptions pre-date and were replaced by PBR.

once gathered, are compiled into a monthly report that compares the cumulative past 12-month emissions for Pantex Plant, to the annual limits set in the authorized PTE.

# 2.2.8.3 Conclusions of Air Emission Tracking for 2020

Over the 12 months of air emission tracking for 2020, operations at Pantex Plant remained well below the certified and authorized PTE levels for each of the pollutants tracked. Figure 2.1 is a graphic presentation of the emission information gathered from January through December 2020, expressed in relation to the PTE certification in Tons per Year (TPY). It provides a demonstration that Pantex Plant continues to meet the requirements of the Title V program for the designation as a Synthetic Minor Source.

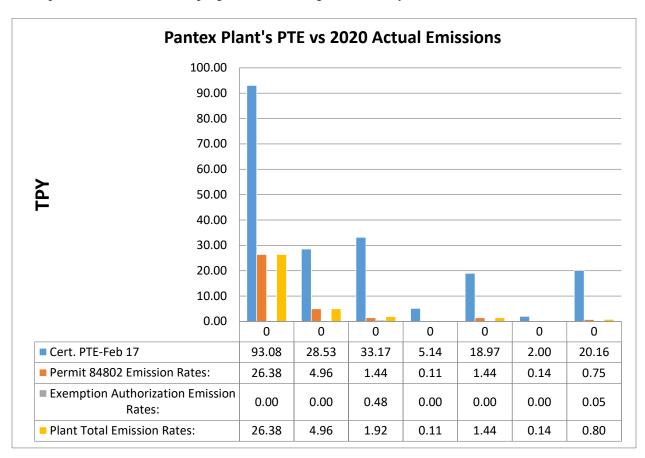


Figure 2.1 – Pantex Plant's PTE vs January – December 2020 Actual Emissions

# 2.3 COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT

Because Pantex Plant is listed on the NPL, CERCLA Section 107 (Title 42 of the United States Code, Chapter 9607) is applicable. Section 107 provides for the designation of federal and state trustees who are responsible for assessing damages, for injury to, destruction of, and loss of natural resources. As Pantex Plant's primary Natural Resource Trustee [per 40 CFR 300.600(b)(3)], the DOE is responsible for encouraging the involvement of designated federal and state trustees. To meet this responsibility, DOE held meetings with state and federal agencies. DOE and EPA jointly issued an IAG in December 2007 in conclusion of negotiations between DOE, Pantex Plant, EPA, and TCEQ. This agreement became effective in February 2008.

Pantex Plant submitted the Site Management Plan (SMP), a primary document required by Article 7.2 of the IAG in November 2008. The SMP is a schedule with deadlines and timetables for completion of all primary documents and additional work identified pursuant to the IAG. The SMP is submitted annually to update schedules for the Five-Year Review and the Final Remedial Action Completion Report. No additional work has been identified for inclusion in the SMP.

Accordingly, Pantex Plant was added to the Construction Completion List, signifying the start of the Operation & Maintenance (O&M) phase of the remedy. Progress reports are prepared and submitted to EPA and TCEQ quarterly to communicate the status and accomplishments of the remedial action systems. Also, an annual report is prepared to document a more thorough evaluation, and five-year reviews are conducted to ensure periodic comprehensive analyses of the protectiveness of the selected remedy. The first five-year review was completed in 2013, with the second five-year review started in 2018.

### 2.4 ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

Pantex Plant provides habitat for several species protected by federal and state endangered species laws. In 1992, Pantex Plant began a program to assess its natural resources (See Chapter 3). Each year, wildlife observations are recorded and state and federal rare species lists are examined for changes. These observations include data collected by subcontractors working on wildlife projects at Pantex Plant. The current status of endangered or threatened species, as well as species of concern, known to appear on or near Pantex Plant (Carson and Potter counties) is summarized in Table 2.3. Pantex Plant is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

Table 2.3 – Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Species, and High Priority Species of Concern<sup>a</sup> known to appear on or near Pantex Plant

Con	nmon Name	Scientific Name	Present in 2020	Federal Status	State Status
	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Yes	Delisted	Concern
	Franklin's gull	Leucophaeus pipixcan	-	-	Concern
	Interior least tern	Sterna antillarum athalassos	-	Delisted	Endangered
	Lesser prairie chicken	Tympanuchus pallidicinctus	-	-	Concern
	Mountain plover	Charadrius montanus	-	-	Concern
	Western burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia hypugea	Yes	-	Concern
	White-faced ibis	Plegadis chihi	-	-	Threatened
	Whooping crane	Grus americana	-	Endangered	Endangered
	Black bear	Ursus americanus	-	-	Threatened
	Black-tailed prairie dog	Cynomys ludovicianus	Yes	-	Concern
	Plains spotted skunk	Spilogale putorius interrupta	-	-	Concern
	Prairie vole	Microtus ochrogaster	-	-	Concern
	Swift fox	Vulpes velox	-	-	Concern
Reptiles	Texas horned lizard	Phrynosoma cornutum	Yes	-	Threatened

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (S1/S2 ranking, recently proposed.)

Several species listed as Threatened or Endangered for Carson County or surrounding counties, but not included in Table 2.3 because of their dependence on habitat not found on Southern High Plains soils, include the following:

# **Endangered**

• N/A

# Federal and State - Threatened

- Arkansas River shiner (*Notropis girardi*)
  - o Only expected in streams on or flowing into the Canadian River floodplain

# State - Threatened

- Palo Duro mouse (Peromyscus truei comanche)
  - Resident of slopes of steep-walled canyons and along escarpments, habitat not found on Pantex Plant
- Common black-hawk (Buteogallus anthracinus)
  - o Sightings in the High Plains are extremely rare
  - Nesting habitat is cottonwood-lined watercourses far to the south in South Texas and the Trans Pecos region
- Peppered chub (*Macrhybopsis tetranema*)
  - o Only expected in streams on or flowing into the Canadian River floodplain

# 2.5 FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) regulates the manufacture and use of pesticides. The EPA has federal jurisdiction pursuant to 40 CFR 150-189, and the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Structural Pest Control Board have state jurisdiction pursuant to Title 4 TAC 7. Regulations promulgated under FIFRA govern the use, storage, and disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers. State-licensed personnel, in accordance with federal and state regulations, apply pesticides needed for operations at Pantex Plant.

#### **2.5.1** Pesticide Use in 2020

Texas Tech Research Farm (TTRF) submitted 11 agricultural spray requests during the 2020 growing season, however only nine applications were made. All 11 agricultural spray requests were reviewed and approved by the Environmental Compliance Department and Safety & Industrial Hygiene Department. Multiple Pantex organizations and the National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office reviewed the approved requests for information and awareness. Pantex Plant's Maintenance Department made 35 applications during 2020. The majority of these applications were for weed control in Zone 4, Zone 11, Zone 12, and the associated Perimeter Intrusion Detection and Surveillance beds. The second most frequent pesticides used were insecticides for spiders and mosquitos. Contractors submitted 12 applications to control or suppress weeds and prairie dogs, as specified in the contract work completed at Pantex Plant in 2020. Table 2.4 shows the number of pesticide applications conducted at Pantex Plant since 2016.

# 2.6 FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT AND TEXAS WATER CODE

Pantex Plant does not discharge wastewaters into or adjacent to waters of the United States; thus, Pantex Plant is not subject to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act). Pantex Plant is subject to the requirements of the Texas Water Code. All discharges must be done in compliance with the requirements of the Texas Water Code and its implementing regulations.

Table 2.4 – Number of Pesticide Applications Conducted at Pantex Plant

Year of Pesticide Applications	Texas Tech Research Farm	Maintenance Department	Contractors	Total
2016	18	57	12	87
2017	18	59	0	77
2018	10	35	4	49
2019	17	27	9	53
2020	9	35	12	56

During 2020, the TCEQ renewed two permits authorizing the disposal of treated industrial and domestic wastewaters. Pantex Plant disposed all of its treated industrial and domestic wastewaters via discharge to an on-site playa lake. Pantex Plant is authorized by Permit WQ0004397000 (Texas Land Application Permit [TLAP]) and Underground Injection Control (UIC) Authorization 5W2000017 to discharge treated wastewater through surface or subsurface fluid distribution systems. Combined, these authorizations support the production of approximately 400 acres of crops. The TLAP was amended to provide authorizations for the disposal of treated wastewaters through a surface or subsurface irrigation area when covered by vegetation. The UIC authorization allows the application of limited quantities of treated wastewater to the irrigation area during periods when the agricultural fields are fallow.

During 2017, major filter leaks developed in the subsurface fluid distribution system, and use of the system was temporarily discontinued. After June 2017, all treated industrial and domestic wastewaters were discharged via a surface water outfall into Playa Lake 1, per Texas Water Quality Permit WQ0002296000. Repairs are ongoing so that treated effluent from the wastewater treatment facility and from the perched aquifer pump-and-treat systems can once again be discharged to the subsurface fluid distribution system. Efforts are underway to establish a surface irrigation system (pivot), to provide additional opportunities for beneficial reuse of treated wastewater for crop irrigation.

Pantex Plant operates under the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (TXR05CD31) for the discharge of storm water related to industrial activities.

Pantex Plant also obtains coverage as needed under the TPDES Storm Water General Permit for Construction Activities (Permit TXR150000). The Notices of Intent filed for large construction projects during 2020 are listed with other Pantex Plant environmental authorizations and permits in Table 2.5.

At seven of its more remote buildings, Pantex Plant operates On-site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs), or septic tank systems, to dispose of domestic wastewaters from these buildings. Newer OSSFs have been approved by the TCEQ via permits. However, several of the systems were installed prior to the promulgation of applicable regulations and are not currently registered. As unregistered OSSFs are replaced, permits authorizing the upgrading or installation of the new system will be acquired from the TCEQ.

# 2.6.1 Wastewater Discharge Permit Inspections

The TCEQ did not conduct a Comprehensive Compliance Investigation of Permit WQ0004397000 or WQ0002296000 during CY 2020. Pantex Plant had four separate sanitary sewer over-flow events which were reported to the TCEQ and mitigated.

**Table 2.5 – Permits Issued to Pantex Plant** 

Building or Activity	Permit Number	Issuing Agency	Effective Date	Expiration Date
Air				
Air Quality Permit	84802	TCEQ	03/29/2019	03/29/2029
All other small sources	Standard Exemptions, De Minimis authorization, and Permit by Rule	TCEQ	Various dates	When changes occur to the process that modify the character or nature of the air emission, or modify the process so that the PBR may no longer be used.
Clean Air Act Title V Declaration, 30 TAC 122	N/A	TCEQ	05/22/2000 (first filing)	None
Solid Waste				
Solid Wests Designation Number	TX4890110527	EPA	10/30/1980	None
Solid Waste Registration Number	30459	TCEQ	10/30/1980	None
Industrial and Solid Waste Management Site Permit; RCRA Compliance Plan	HW-50284	TCEQ	05/30/2014	05/30/2024
UIC TLAP associated	5W2000017	TCEQ	11/29/2004	When cancelled.
UIC- Environmental Restoration Program	5X2600215	TCEQ	10/23/2001	When cancelled.
Water				
Texas Water Quality Permit	WQ0002296000	TCEQ	08/27/2020	08/26/2025
TLAP	WQ0004397000	TCEQ	08/11/2020	08/10/2030
TPDES Multi-Sector (Industrial) Storm Water Permit	TXR05CD31	TCEQ	06/19/2018	08/14/2021
TPDES Storm Water General Permit for Construction Activities	TXR150000	TCEQ	03/05/2018	03/05/2023
Running Track Project	TXR1509BO	TCEQ	02/25/2020	Upon completion
Road Repair Project	TXR1508BO	TCEQ	02/25/2020	10/14/2020
Well Installation Project	TXR1516CR	TCEQ	6/16/2020	Upon completion
Natural Resources				
Scientific Permit	SPR-1296-844	TXPWD	12/05/2011	12/31/2023
Letter of Authorization: Trap and Release Fur-bearing Animals	None	TXPWD	07/28/2000 (Initial)	Renewed annually.
Bee Removal Permit	TX-6-18-07	Texas Apiary Inspection Service	08/10/2010 (Initial)	Renewed annually.

Building or Activity	Permit Number	Issuing Agency	Effective Date	Expiration Date
Intrastate Bee and Equipment Permit	01/12/2003	Texas Apiary Inspection Service	08/10/2010 (Initial)	Renewed annually.

### 2.7 MEDICAL WASTE

Medical waste at Pantex Plant is regulated by the DOT, the State of Texas, and associated Plant requirements. Pantex Plant remains in compliance with applicable requirements.

# 2.8 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

NEPA establishes requirements that federal agencies must meet to make well-informed decisions on proposed activities. The decisions must be based on alternatives that consider detailed information concerning potential significant environmental impacts. To minimize environmental impacts from operations at Pantex Plant, proposed activities are reviewed for NEPA requirements.

At Pantex Plant, the NEPA process is initiated by completing a NEPA Review Form (NRF). The NRF includes a description of the proposed action. Subject matter experts review for the actions for potential environmental concerns. NEPA documentation ranges from internal reviews that tier off previously approved NEPA documents, categorical exclusions, Environmental Assessments (EAs), and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). *Implementation Guidance for DOE Policy on Documentation and Online Posting of Categorical Exclusion Determinations: NEPA Process Transparency and Openness*, October 16, 2009, mandates that all determinations for categorical exclusions involving classes of actions listed in Appendix B to Subpart D of the DOE's NEPA regulations, 10 CFR 1021, be published online.

Every five years, the DOE is required to evaluate Site-wide EISs (SWEIS) by means of a Supplement Analysis (SA). Based on the SA, DOE determines whether the existing SWEIS remains adequate, or whether to prepare a new SWEIS or supplement the existing SWEIS. The determination and supporting analysis are made available in the appropriate DOE Information Repositories, Pantex Plant website, and the DOE Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance website for a reasonable time. The most current Supplement Analysis for Pantex Plant was approved by NPO in June 2018.

In 2020, 14 Standard NRFs (Categorical Exclusion determinations), 16 Internal NRFs, and four amendments were prepared and approved. Categorical Exclusion determinations for 14 Standard NRFs and two amendments were posted on the Pantex Plant website. In 2020, one EA was approved by NPO.

# 2.9 NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT, ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT, AND NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT

In October 2004, NPO, Pantex Plant, SHPO, and the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Advisory Council) completed execution of a Programmatic Agreement and Cultural Resource Management Plan (PA/CRMP) (PANTEXa). This PA/CRMP ensures compliance with Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), providing for more efficient and effective review of Pantex Plant projects having the potential to impact prehistoric, World War II era, or Cold War era properties. In addition, the PA/CRMP outlines a range of preservation activities planned for Pantex Plant's compliance program. The PA/CRMP provides for the systematic management of all archeological and historic resources at Pantex Plant under a single document.

Compliance with the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) requirements for site protection and collections curation is addressed in the PA/CRMP. Even though Native American mortuary remains or funerary artifacts have not been found at Pantex Plant, compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act is also addressed in the plan. Both archeological and natural resources at Pantex Plant are closely concentrated around four playa lakes. These playa and floodplain areas have been reserved for comprehensive ecosystem management, resulting in preservation of many of Pantex Plant's archeological sites.

Fulfilling Pantex Plant's cultural resource management obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA, 28 projects were evaluated in 2020 under the PA/CRMP. Of these projects, 24 did not involve either National Register-eligible properties or possible adverse effects. For the remaining four projects, a prior notification and a walk-down prior to start-up was required to avoid impacts to the National-Register-eligible properties.

# 2.10 RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT

# 2.10.1 Active Waste Management

The types of wastes generated at Pantex Plant include:

- Hazardous waste,
- Universal waste,
- Non-hazardous industrial solid waste,
- Waste regulated by the TSCA,
- Low-level radioactive waste,
- · Mixed low-level radioactive waste, and
- Sanitary waste.

Table 2.6 summarizes wastes generated from the operation, maintenance, and environmental cleanup at Pantex Plant in CY 2020. Overall, the amount of waste generated in 2020 increased 31.2 percent from 2019. This is due primarily to increased activity in the environmental restoration projects and the deactivation and decommissioning of excess facilities and construction projects.

During 2020, 1,441.1 cubic meters (m³) of hazardous waste was generated at Pantex Plant. Typical hazardous wastes generated included:

- Explosives-contaminated solids,
- Spent organic solvents, and
- Solids contaminated with spent organic solvents, metals, and/or explosives.

Hazardous wastes were managed in satellite accumulation areas (less than 55-gal waste accumulation sites), central accumulation areas, or permitted waste management units. Some hazardous wastes, such as explosives, were processed on-site before the process residues were shipped off-site for final treatment and disposal. Environmental restoration projects, construction projects, and deactivation and decommissioning of excess facilities contributed 46.2 percent of the total hazardous waste generated. For 2020, 899.7 m³ of the hazardous wastes from environmental restoration projects, construction projects, and deactivation and decommissioning of excess facilities were RCRA exempt hazardous scrap metal. Hazardous wastes and residues from hazardous waste processing are shipped to commercial facilities authorized for final treatment and disposal or, as applicable, recycling.

**Table 2.6 – Waste Volumes Generated at Pantex Plant (in cubic meters)** 

Waste Type	1993	2017	2018	2019	2020	Percent Increase or (Decrease) from 1993	Percent Increase or (Decrease) from 2019
Non-hazardous Industrial Solid Waste	10,885	2,693	3,420	6,621.9	8,860.7	(18.6)	33.8
Sanitary Waste	612	927.3	927.3	794.9	681.3	11.3	(14.3)
Hazardous Waste	369.6	398.9	387.3	935.1	1,441.1	289.9	54.1
Low-Level Waste	287	47.6	16.1	17.8	16.8	(94.1)	(5.6)
Mixed Waste	37.5	0.45	0.0	1.1	0.02	(99.9)	(98.2)
TSCA Waste	112.9	430.9	245.8	138.6	171.6	52.0	23.8
Universal Waste <sup>a</sup>	-	13.2	16.7	15.1	9.0	-	(40.4)
Total	12,304	4,511.3	5,013.2	8,524.5	11,180.5	(9.1)	31.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> In 2001, Pantex Plant began managing some hazardous waste under the Universal Waste Rules.

Pantex Plant generated 8,860.7 m³ of non-hazardous industrial solid waste in 2020. Generated non-hazardous industrial solid wastes were characterized as either Class 1 non-hazardous industrial solid waste or Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid waste, as defined by 30 TAC 335. Class 1 non-hazardous industrial solid wastes generated at Pantex Plant were managed in a similar manner as hazardous waste, including shipment to off-site treatment and/or disposal facilities. Some Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid wastes (inert and insoluble materials such as bricks, concrete, glass, dirt, and certain plastics and rubber items that are not readily degradable) were disposed in an on-site Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid waste landfill. Other Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid wastes, generally liquids, were shipped to commercial facilities for treatment and disposal.

Pantex Plant's environmental restoration projects, construction projects, and deactivation and decommissioning of excess facilities contributed 56.3 percent of the total non-hazardous industrial solid waste generated during 2020. In addition, 681.3 m³ of sanitary waste (cafeteria waste and general office trash) was generated at Pantex Plant. Sanitary wastes were also characterized as Class 2 non-hazardous industrial solid wastes and disposed of at authorized off-site landfills.

Pantex Plant generated 171.6 m³ of waste regulated by TSCA during 2020. These wastes include asbestos, asbestos-containing material, and materials containing or contaminated by PCBs. During the year, environmental restoration projects, construction projects, and deactivation and decommissioning of excess facilities contributed to 98.0 percent of the total TSCA waste generated. All TSCA wastes were shipped off-site for final treatment and disposal.

During 2020, 9.0 m³ of waste that were managed as universal wastes was generated at Pantex Plant. Universal wastes are defined as hazardous wastes that are subject to alternative management standards in lieu of regulation, except as provided in applicable sections of the TAC. Universal wastes include batteries, pesticides, paint and paint-related waste, and fluorescent lamps. During the year, environmental restoration projects contributed to 1.5 percent of the total universal waste generated. These wastes are shipped off-site for final treatment, disposal, or, as applicable, recycling.

Pantex Plant generated 16.8 m³ of low-level radioactive waste during 2020. The low-level radioactive wastes were generated by weapons-related activities.

Assembly and disassembly of weapons can result in some wastes that include both radioactive and hazardous constituents, which are referred to as "mixed waste." The hazardous portion of the mixed waste is regulated by the TCEQ pursuant to RCRA regulations. The radioactive portion is regulated pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act. During 2020, 0.02 m³ of mixed waste was generated at Pantex Plant.

#### 2.10.2 Hazardous Waste Permit Modifications

There were no permit modifications or applications for modification for Permit HW-50284 during 2020.

# 2.10.3 Annual Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Inspection

The annual RCRA waste site inspection was conducted by the TCEQ on August 4-5, 2020. The inspection included facility walk-downs of all hazardous waste permitted locations, all less-than-90-day waste accumulation sites, and various waste accumulation areas located in Zone 11. The inspection also included a comprehensive records review to ensure compliance with Pantex Plant hazardous waste permit and the applicable requirements from the CFR and the TAC. A comprehensive COVID-19 mitigation and control plan was developed and approved for this inspection, due to the impact of the Coronavirus during 2020. This year's inspection concluded with no findings or issues identified, and Pantex received a general compliance letter from TCEQ dated August 19, 2020.

Additionally, upon completion of the RCRA inspection, the TCEQ inspector completed a Texas Tier II Right-To-Know records review investigation. The inspection reviews all reporting and planning requirements of Section 302-303 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (see also section 2.13 below), also known as the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Title III. The inspection was also completed with no findings or issues identified.

### 2.10.4 Release Site and Potential Release Site Investigation, Monitoring, and Corrective Action

Progress reports, required by Table VII of HW-50284 (TCEQa) and Article 16.4 of the Pantex Plant IAG, were submitted to both the TCEQ and EPA in 2020. The annual report contained a full reporting of all monitoring information for 2020. Quarterly progress reports were also submitted in 2020 in accordance with the schedule in the approved SAP and Table VII of Permit HW-50284. These reports focused on continued operation of remedies and on monitoring results from key groundwater wells.

### 2.10.5 Underground Storage Tanks

Pantex Plant operated five regulated underground Petroleum Storage Tanks (PSTs) during 2020. Of the five regulated underground storage tanks at Pantex Plant, two are used for emergency generator fuel storage. Three other PSTs at Pantex Plant are used for vehicle fueling. These tanks store unleaded gasoline, diesel, and a gasoline–ethanol mix (E-85). A regulatory inspection of PST compliance was not conducted during 2020.

### 2.11 SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

Pantex Plant operates a Non-community, Non-transient Public Drinking Water System, which is registered with the TCEQ. This category of systems identifies private systems that continuously supply water to a small group of people; i.e., schools and factories. Pantex Plant obtains its drinking water from the Ogallala Aquifer through five wells located at the northeast corner of the Plant.

# 2.11.1 Drinking Water Inspection

On August 18, 2020, a TCEQ subcontractor collected samples from the water system. All sample results were below any regulatory limits and action levels. The TCEQ did not perform a comprehensive Compliance Inspection of the PWS during CY 2020.

# 2.11.2 Drinking Water System Achievements

On December 17, 2009, the TCEQ notified Pantex Plant that its PWS had achieved a "Superior Rating." Organizations receiving the Superior PWS rating are recognized for their overall excellence in all aspects of operating a PWS. Pantex Plant maintained its Superior PWS rating during 2020.

#### 2.12 TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT

The major objective of the TSCA is to ensure that the risk to humans and the environment, posed by toxic materials, has been characterized and understood before they are introduced into commerce. The goal is to regulate chemicals that present unreasonable risk to human health or the environment. Of the materials regulated by TSCA, those containing asbestos, beryllium and materials and parts containing, contaminated by, or potentially contaminated by PCBs are managed at Pantex Plant.

As a user of chemical substances, Pantex Plant complies with applicable regulations issued under the Act, refrains from using PCBs, except as allowed by EPA regulations, and refrains from using any chemical substance that Pantex Plant personnel know, or have reason to believe, has been manufactured, produced, or distributed in violation of the Act. As of December 31, 1996, all new parts and equipment that contain PCBs, used at Pantex Plant, have PCBs that are in concentrations of less than 50 parts per million.

# 2.13 EMERGENCY PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), which was enacted as part of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), requires that the public be provided with information about hazardous chemicals in the community; and establishes emergency planning and notification procedures to protect the public in the event of a release. In order to accomplish these goals, the EPCRA and Executive Order 12856 require that Pantex Plant file several annual reports with the EPA (Table 2.7) and participate in Local Emergency Planning Committee activities. Pantex Plant remains in compliance with provisions of this statute.

# 2.14 FLOODPLAINS/WETLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

Floodplain management is taken into account when surface water or land use plans are prepared or evaluated. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Tulsa District, completed a floodplain delineation report in January 1995 (USACE, 1995), revising an earlier delineation. In CY 2020, all proposed activities at Pantex Plant were evaluated during the NEPA process for potential impacts on floodplains and wetlands and other criteria required by 10 CFR 1022.

Table 2.7 – 2020 Activities for Compliance with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

Requirement	Applicable	Comment
Planning Notification (SARA 302-303)	Yes	Three chemicals defined as "Extremely Hazardous Substance" by SARA 302-303 were stored at Pantex Plant in quantities above the threshold planning quantities in 2020.
Extremely Hazardous Substance Notification (SARA 304)	Yes	There were no accidental releases of "Extremely Hazardous Substance" as defined by SARA 304 that exceeded quantities in 2020.
Material Safety Data Sheet/Chemical Inventory (SARA 311-312)	Yes	This requirement was satisfied by the Texas Tier Two Report <sup>a</sup> . Twenty-seven chemicals were listed in the report for 2020.
Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Reporting (SARA 313)	Yes	A Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Report was required for CY 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Report submitted annually to the Chief, Hazard Communication Branch, Occupational Safety and Health Division, Texas Department of Health, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the local Fire Department.

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# **Chapter 3 - Environmental Management Information**

To implement sound stewardship practices that are protective of the air, water, land, and other natural and cultural resources impacted by Pantex Plant operations, a comprehensive Environmental Management System (EMS) has been developed. The Pantex Plant EMS is a major component of the Integrated Safety Management System (ISM) and contributes to sustaining Pantex Plant imperatives of Safe, Secure, Zero Defects, and Deliver as Promised. The ISM/EMS applies to all personnel whether permanent or temporary, and to subcontractors working within the boundaries of Pantex Plant.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- Pantex Plant exceeded clean energy targets set forth by the Sustainability Performance Division (SPD) of the Department of Energy (DOE).
- Water intensity at the Pantex Plant has decreased approximately 18.7 percent from the 2008 baseline year.
- Approximately 95 percent of all electronics procured have met criteria for being environmentally sustainable, for which Pantex won the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Purchaser Award.
- Pantex diverted 46 percent of non-hazardous solid waste and 68 percent of construction and demolition debris from being disposed in landfills in 2020.
- In 2020, the Pantex Plant pump-and-treat systems and the soil vapor extraction system combined removed 398 pounds of contaminants.

### 3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Pantex Plant EMS meets the requirements of DOE Order 436.1 *Departmental Sustainability* (DOEc) and is modeled on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001, *Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use*, 2004. The EMS provides for systematic planning, integrated execution, and evaluation of programs for:

- Public health and environmental protection,
- Environmental sustainability,
- Pollution prevention (P2),
- Recycling, and
- Compliance with applicable environmental protection requirements.

It includes policies, procedures, and training to identify activities with significant environmental impacts; manage, control, and mitigate the impacts of these activities; and assess performance and implement corrective actions where needed. Environmental aspects and impacts are reviewed annually, and measureable environmental objectives and specific targets are developed for implementation.

DOE Order 436.1 requires that contractors must integrate the Site sustainability goals into the EMS. The Site Sustainability Plan (SSP) is prepared annually by the Environmental Compliance Department (ECD). The SSP reports the site's performance status and planned actions for meeting DOE's SSP goals and progress in for the DOE sustainability goals. Pantex Plant uses its EMS as the primary platform for SSP implementation, as well as for other programs with objectives and measurable targets that contribute to meeting sustainability goals.

By utilizing the DOE sustainability goals as the Environmental Aspects, Pantex is in the unique position to work on multi-year objectives on the site and quantify the big projects in terms of environmental impacts. This means that most of the initial objectives for fiscal year (FY) 2020 will flow into FY 2021. Table 3.1 represents the status of Objectives and Targets for FY 2020.

Table 3.1 –Pantex Plant Objectives and Targets for 2020

	Tuntex Fluit Objectives and Tungets for 2020	
Objective	Target(s)	Status/Comments
Reduce water consumption and intensity throughout the Plant	Repair and expand the Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) fields to beneficially reuse Pantex wastewater instead of discharging to playa 1.	On-going
	Continue to work on repairing leaking, old infrastructure to make the system more efficient and to reduce number of leaking areas.	On-going
	Repair the High Pressure Fire Loop (HPFL) water leaks.	On-going
Increase the amount of clean/renewable energy used from the Pantex Renewable Energy Project (PREP) production	North substation/ PREP interconnection project.	On-going
Reduce Scope 1&2 (Direct) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions	Redevelop the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) energy audit evaluations.	Completed
Grow the general Plant population's environmental awareness in accordance with	Overhaul current training on environmental awareness for the general Plant population.	On-going
the mission	Conversion to the ISO 14001:2015	On-going
Divert 50% of non-hazardous solid waste	Revamp the recycling efforts throughout the Plant and work with Lawler Wood with the recycling in the John C Drummond Center (JCDC).	On-going
Remain 100% compliant on all environmental authorizations, regulations, and permits	Permit renewals for wastewater permit.	Completed

# 3.1.1 EMS Accomplishments for 2020

In accordance with the current DOE Order 436.1 *Departmental Sustainability*, Pantex Plant continues to implement and maintain a formal EMS using the ISO 14001 Standard as the platform for site implementation. To meet the intent of this DOE Order, on four occasions the Pantex Plant EMS has been the subject of required formal triennial audits by qualified auditors, outside the control or scope of the EMS, and was successfully identified as conforming to ISO 14001 at each audit, the last one occurring in 2018.

Opportunities for continuous improvement are the emphasis of regularly scheduled building environmental walk down surveillances. These surveillances focus on EMS principles, energy and water conservation, environmental sustainability, recycling, safety, and P2.

Select accomplishments of the environmental programs at Pantex Plant include, but are not limited to:

- Continued promotion of sustainable acquisition and procurement to the maximum extent practicable, ensuring bio-preferred and bio-based provisions and clauses are included in 95 percent of applicable contracts,
- The Sustainable Acquisition team received the DOE Green Buy Award in 2020 for recycling of electronics; purchasing of concrete, paper towels/toilet tissue, and electronic equipment as Priority Products. Additionally, these awards recognize that the Consolidated Nuclear Security (CNS) Sustainable Acquisition Program trained 27.8 percent of employees at Y-12 and 42.7 percent of employees at Pantex involved in specifying and procuring materials, products, and services during Fiscal Year 2020. The team also received the EPEAT award for purchasing energy efficient electronics in 2020.
- Diversion of approximately 46 percent of municipal solid waste, and approximately 68 percent construction & demolition material/debris originally earmarked for landfills and identified alternate pathways for beneficial reuse,
- Achievement of sufficient energy savings that enable meeting clean and renewable electric energy targets and being able to transfer enough renewable energy credits to Y-12 to meet their sustainability goal.

# **3.1.2 Energy**

In the remainder of this Section, the goals established by the DOE Sustainability Performance Division (SPD) are expressed in fiscal years from DOE determined baselines. Pantex Plant reported progress towards meeting these goals in a SSP produced after the completion of FY 2020. For the purpose of this document, the progress during Calendar Year (CY) 2020 is also reported as applicable. Success in reducing energy use at Pantex Plant has historically been realized from energy savings activities such as:

- Utilization of the Energy Management Control System (EMCS) to implement and maintain night, weekend and holiday setbacks;
- Installation of occupancy sensors to control lighting in areas in several facilities with low occupancy rates (conference rooms, break rooms, restrooms);
- Installation of new or retrofitted advanced meters that are integrated with a communication network and dedicated server that stores the meter readings for use with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Portfolio Manager building benchmarking system;
- Procurement of equipment such as Energy Star products that are more energy efficient; and
- Continuous and retro-building commissioning.

In 2020, Pantex Plant continued to use an alternate work schedule, which has helped reduce energy consumption for a large number of administrative personnel. Also, the Plant was quickly able to maximize teleworking at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic with still being able to safely complete mission essential work. In addition, a major source of reductions in energy intensity has been the installation of the Pantex Renewable Energy Project (PREP) (see Figure 3.1) in the summer of 2014.

A goal established in 2016, included in guidance from the U.S. DOE SPD<sup>2</sup>, requires a 25 percent reduction in energy intensity by FY 2025 from a FY 2015 baseline. Pantex had a 4.4 percent decrease in energy intensity from the 2015 baseline as the energy intensity decreased from 164.9 energy per square foot per

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Scheduled to be incorporated in a future revision to DOE O 436.1



Figure 3.1 – Pantex Renewable Energy Project<sup>3</sup>

year (kBtu/ft²/year) for FY 2015 to 157.6 kBtu/ft²/year for FY 2020. The decrease in energy intensity is primarily attributable to the continued work of reducing the number of buildings vacated to occupy the John C. Drummond Center (JCDC) and the amount of employees that were able to maximize teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic. As demolition of these vacated buildings continues, and with the renewable energy production from PREP, Pantex Plant expects to see a larger decrease in energy intensity.

During CY 2020, the PREP supplied 36,874 MWh (equivalent to 125,819 MMBtu) of electricity to Pantex Plant and the local electrical grid. Pantex Plant exceeded clean energy targets set forth by the SPD of the Department of Energy and were able to provide Y-12 with enough renewable energy credits to meet their clean energy goal.

#### 3.1.3 Greenhouse Gases

Guidance from the SPD has expanded upon the energy reduction and environmental performance requirements indicated in DOE Order 436.1 by setting requirements in several areas, including the management of GHGs. The guidance requires a 50 percent reduction of electricity-related and natural gas GHG emissions and 25 percent reduction of other indirect GHG emissions by FY 2025 from their respective FY2008 baselines.

The largest component of the GHG emissions accredited to Pantex Plant are those from federally owned or controlled sources such as the combustion of natural gas used to produce steam on-site and the use of petroleum fuels in fleet and other vehicles and equipment as well as fugitive emissions from refrigerants and wastewater treatment operations. These emissions and those generated through the purchase and use of electricity generated off-site yielded more than 73,970<sup>4</sup> metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e) of GHG in 2008.

During FY 2020, the operation of Pantex Plant yielded a total of 68,400 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e. Of this total, 18,032 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e was due to the combustion of natural gas, 28,404 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e due to the purchase and use of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Pantex Renewable Energy Project (PREP) consists of five 2.3-MW-Siemens wind turbines

electricity generated off-site and 21,964 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e was due to other indirect GHG emissions. These emissions are illustrated in Figure 3.2.

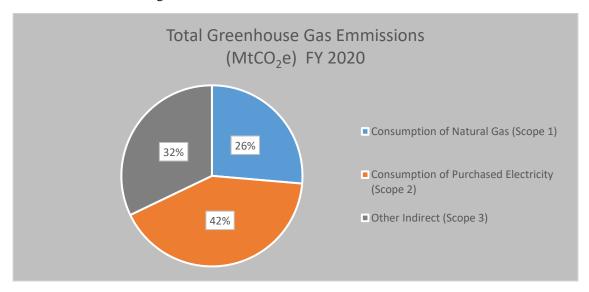


Figure 3.2 – Total 2020 GHG Emissions

By the operation of the PREP during CY 2020, Pantex Plant did not need to purchase as much electricity, and the quantity of electricity-related GHG emissions continued to be reduced from the baseline year (FY 2008) levels. In addition, reducing energy consumption by the means discussed in Section 3.1.2, Pantex Plant has concurrently reduced the generation of electricity-related GHGs. Pantex Plant also continued efforts to reduce GHG emissions by improving operations of its fleet, reducing petroleum fuel use, using more hybrid vehicles for better gas mileage, using Alternative Fuel Vehicles and ensuring the fleet is of a proper size for mission work. Future reductions in the generation of electricity-related GHGs are anticipated to occur as operation of the PREP continues.

Pantex Plant also continued to reduce other indirect GHG emissions compared to the FY2 008 baseline. Despite assumptions that teleworking would reduce the indirect GHG emissions in 2020, the lack of carpooling outweighed the benefit of teleworking. While the hope was that teleworking would reduce the GHG emissions, measurements indicated an increase as carpooling completely stopped due to the pandemic protocols; also much of the work performed at Pantex is mission essential and required the workforce to remain onsite during this time.

# 3.1.4 Water

Pantex Plant has been required, beginning in 2008, to reduce water intensity<sup>4</sup> relative to the baseline of the Plant's water consumption in 2007 of approximately 129 million gal. Pantex Plant has continued to develop and implement initiatives based upon requirements in DOE Order 436.1 to reduce annual use and meet sustainability goals integrated into our SSP.

During 2020, water consumption was approximately 110.3 million gallons. Despite an 11.7 percent increase in square footage since the baseline year, water intensity has decreased about 23.3 percent from the baseline year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The ratio of the number of gallons of water used divided by the square footage of the site.

At Pantex Plant, five onsite water wells drilled into the Ogallala Aquifer provide the Plant's potable water supply. There are approximately 50 miles of aging distribution lines suppling cooling towers, the steam plant, and domestic uses such as restrooms, showers, ice machines, and cafeterias. Some of the Plant's weapons processes require water for testing and quality control. In addition to the traditional distribution lines, there are over 17 miles of a high-pressure fire loop (HPFL) suppression system maintained for the Plant, with high risk production areas prioritized. Fire suppression systems are tested on a rigorous schedule throughout the year, which is a main contributor to total water consumption. Pantex also provides water to the adjacent and onsite Texas Tech University (TTU) operations for domestic and livestock use through an agreement with TTU. The majority of water lost is through aging distribution system leaks.

In FY 2020, three of the eight identified leaks in the traditional distribution lines were repaired; however, as repairs were made, many lines developed new leaks due to the aging infrastructure. There are plans for improvements in the system in the upcoming years. The COVID-19 pandemic did not impact water usage for Pantex. The largest water consumer for Pantex is the HPFL system due to required testing. This system remained in service throughout FY 2020 since mission critical work continued throughout the pandemic at Pantex.

Underneath Pantex, there is a perched aquifer that is currently part of the onsite environmental restoration activities. Water from the perched aquifer is collected, treated, and transferred to an authorized onsite storage lagoon intended for beneficial reuse. This non-potable water is combined with the Plant's treated wastewater. This combined water can be discharged via a permitted wastewater outfall and discharged to an onsite playa or transferred to a subsurface irrigation system. In 2017, the irrigation system failed and all water was diverted to the playa. In FY 2020, projects were completed to repair seventy-five percent of the irrigation system which reinstates the potential of beneficial reuse of the water. Water is distributed through manifold pipes to individual zones located within four 100-acre tracts of irrigated land. This irrigated land is agriculturally farmed by TTU for crops including, but not limited to, winter wheat, sorghum, soybeans, cotton, corn, and oats.

# 3.2 OVERSIGHT

# 3.2.1 Federal Agencies

Chapter 2 of this document discusses the results of compliance inspections and/or other oversight activities conducted by the EPA in 2020.

#### 3.2.2 State of Texas

Chapter 2 of this document discusses the results of compliance inspections and/or other oversight activities conducted by various state agencies. In 1989, the Secretary of Energy invited the host State of each DOE facility to oversee the evaluation of environmental impacts from facility operations as an additional oversight mechanism. As a result, the DOE entered into a five-year Agreement in Principle with the State of Texas in August 1990. It was renegotiated in 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, and 2015. The current agreement is in effect through September 30, 2020 and a new agreement will be put in place and run until 2026. It focuses on general cooperation with all state agencies, including emergency management. Six state agencies are involved: the Governor's Office (acting through the State Energy Conservation Office), the Texas Attorney General's Office, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)-Division of Emergency Management, the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS)-Radiation Control, and the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology.

The agreement also provides for joint emergency planning with Carson, Armstrong, and Potter counties, and the City of Amarillo. A number of meetings between DOE and these agencies were held in 2020. In addition, DOE provided information to the State of Texas, as required, and the State conducted its own environmental sampling and research, and participated in joint emergency exercises and drills with Pantex Plant and local jurisdictions.

### 3.3 POLLUTION PREVENTION

Activities in support of the P2 Program are waste elimination, material substitution, waste minimization, recycling, and energy and water conservation. Team members are continually searching and seeking new and innovative initiatives to further the advancement of P2 principles, the philosophy of sustainable acquisition, and the proper management and disposition in the life cycle of all materials and items acquired by Pantex.

In accordance with DOE O 436.1, Pantex has continued an active recycling program, which reduces the waste disposal volumes and saves taxpayers' money. Results of ongoing recycling initiatives in 2020 are shown in Table 3.2.

Pantex diverted 422.2 metric tons of non-hazardous solid waste, excluding construction and demolition debris in fiscal year (FY) 2020. This represented approximately 46 percent of the total quantity of waste in this category. Additional waste diversion occurred by excessing equipment, material, and other tangible assets through a commercial auction.

In FY 2020, Pantex diverted 68 percent of construction and demolition debris. Contracts have been maintained with offsite vendors to recycle concrete waste generated from construction projects. As a result, more than 1240.0 metric tons of concrete were recycled during FY 2020.

Additionally, Pantex concluded an aggressive project to repair and resurface the majority of road surfaces throughout the Plant complex with 1048.9 metric tons of asphalt being reused/recycled/repurposed during the span of this project for the current FY. Through these ongoing efforts Pantex has demonstrated an environmentally friendly approach to lifecycle management and stewardship of all processes while ensuring the protection of national security resources and assets entrusted to Pantex by the citizens of this country.

# 3.4 NATURAL RESOURCES

# 3.4.1 Flora and Fauna

Across most of the Southern High Plains, cultivation and other developments have reduced the acreage of native habitat. These types of reductions have also occurred at Pantex Plant. The remaining areas of nearnative habitat at Pantex Plant are small and include wetlands and shortgrass prairie uplands located near the playas.

A biological assessment at Pantex Plant, completed in 1996, addressed the impacts from continuing Plant operations to endangered or threatened species and species of concern that may occur in or migrate through the area. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) approved the assessment, and concurred with the conclusion that continued Pantex Plant operations would not be likely to adversely affect any federally listed threatened or endangered species (PANTEXb). This was reaffirmed in subsequent Supplement

Table 3.2 – Pantex Plant Site-wide Recycling for 2020

2020 Totals				
Recycled Material	Pounds	Kilograms		
Aluminum (Scrap Metal)	0	0		
Batteries	73,967	33,551		
Computers & Other Electronics	22,451	10,184		
Concrete & Asphalt	5,046,240	2,288,936		
Corrugated Cardboard	95,360	43,255		
Engine Oils	30,620	13,889		
Fluorescent Bulbs	2,857	1,296		
Newspapers/Magazines/Phonebooks	3,103	1,407		
Non-Suspension Scrap Metals	814,316	369,368		
Office and Mixed Paper	48,200	21,863		
Oil Filters	2,250	1,021		
Plastic	6,720	3,048		
Tires/Scrap Rubber	29,620	13,435		
Total	6,159,424	2,793,870		

Analyses (2003, 2009, 2013, and 2018) for the Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS). Lists of threatened and endangered species, species of concern, and information regarding designations of critical habitat are monitored regularly for changes in status. Results of animal and plant sampling are discussed in Chapters 11 and 12.

# 3.4.2 Mammals

When including feral cats (*Felis sylvestris*), at least 11 species of mammals were recorded at Pantex Plant in 2020 during field activities and nuisance animal responses (Table 3.3). The all-time mammal list for Pantex Plant includes 46 species. In 2020, spotlight surveys were cancelled due to the need/requirement for social distancing. These surveys require a driver, spot-lighters, and a Security Police Officer to all be in the same vehicle.

In 2020, a survey of black-tailed prairie dog colonies conducted with the assistance of Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment revealed that the colonies occupied about 548 acres (ac) at Pantex Plant (including Pantex Lake; Figures 3.3 and 3.4). Prairie dogs are occasionally controlled where they have spread into operational areas of concern. Prairie dog control was conducted in an area north of 12-36, and in landfill and Security training areas west of Zone 4, extending to the northwest of Range 1.

Table 3.3 – Mammals Identified at Pantex Plant During 2020

Common Name	Scientific Name
Badger	Taxidea taxus
Black-tailed prairie dog	Cynomys ludovicianus
Bobcat	Lynx rufus
Cottontail	Sylvilagus spp. <sup>a</sup>
Coyote	Canis latrans
Feral cat	Felis sylvestris
Mule deer	Odocoileus hemionus
Pronghorn	Antilocapra americana
Striped skunk	Mephitis mephitis
Virginia opossum	Didelphis virginiana
White-tailed deer	Odocoileus virginianus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Desert (*S. audubonii*) and eastern (*S. floridanus*) cottontails could occur on Pantex Plant and, thus, the "at least 11 species."

### **3.4.3** Birds

Migratory birds are an important part of Pantex Plant's natural resources. K. D. Seyffert compiled a bird checklist for Pantex Plant. It indicates the species and their abundances expected in the Pantex Plant area during various seasons of the year, based on habitat types and knowledge of migrations through the local area (Seyffert, 1994). *The Integrated Plan for Playa Management at Pantex Plant and Wildlife Management at Pantex* (PANTEXc) provides for monitoring of birds across the Pantex Plant. The all-time bird list for Pantex Plant includes 202 species, a result of systematic transect and plot surveys, intensive research projects by university collaborators, trailcam photos, casual observations, and nuisance animal (bird) response. Currently, birds are recorded during work activities thus the distribution of sightings across Pantex Plant is determined by staff field activity and work locations. Observations of birds in 2020 were impacted greatly by the COVID-19 pandemic. During CY 2020, 41 species of birds were recorded across the Plant (Appendix A).

Pantex Plant collaborates with York University, University of Manitoba, and the Purple Martin Conservation Association and maintains a study site for deployment of geolocator and GPS data-loggers on eastern purple martins (*Progne subis subis*) as part of an international collaboration studying this declining songbird. GPS technology has confirmed roost locations and habitat throughout the migrations and winter. Pantex Plant is also collaborating in opportunistic collaborations on research projects dealing with microclimate of nesting cavities in artificial housing used by purple martins and whether the species can be lured back into nesting in forest ecosystems. Weyerhaeuser Corporation, Mississippi State University, and Texas Tech University are involved with these projects.

Pantex Plant contracted with the U. S. Geological Survey's Texas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit on a study focusing on the impacts of wind energy development on western burrowing owls (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*). Four burrowing owls were equipped with GPS transmitters before the study was discontinued.

During CY 2020, Pantex Plant and collaborators shared research results from studies on purple martins through articles published in The Wildlife Professional and The Purple Martin Update. Several more publications focusing on purple martins were worked on and submitted during CY 2020. These are acknowledged by USDOE as important contributions to federal migratory bird initiatives.

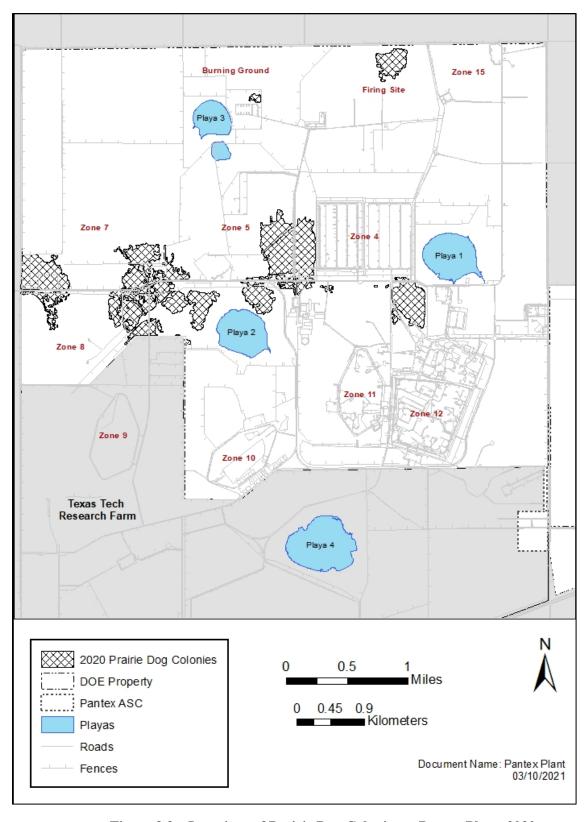


Figure 3.3 – Locations of Prairie Dog Colonies at Pantex Plant, 2020

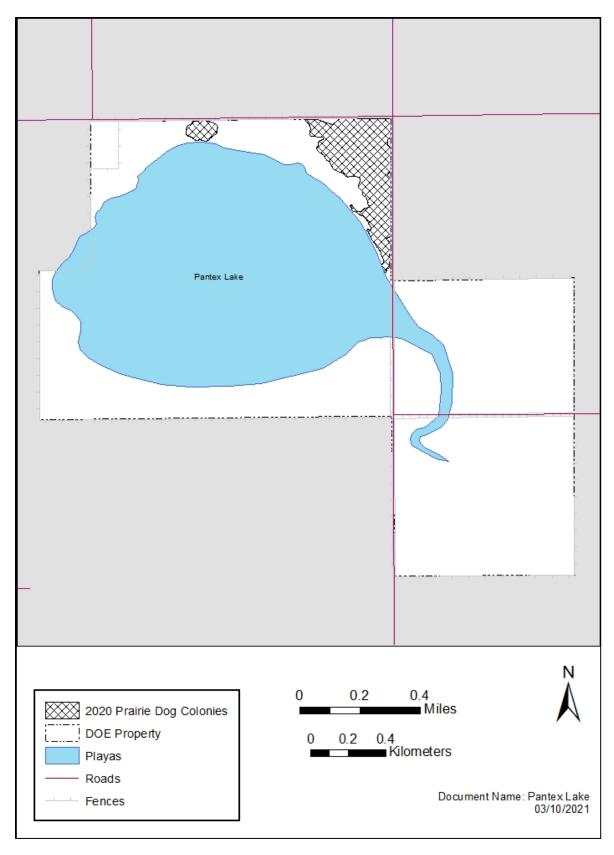


Figure 3.4 – Location of Prairie Dog Colonies at Pantex Lake, 2020

# 3.4.4 Amphibians and Reptiles

One species of amphibian and four of reptiles were recorded at Pantex Plant in 2020 during field activities and nuisance animal responses (Table 3.4). The all-time amphibian and reptile list for Pantex Plant includes 28 species.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bullsnake	Pituophis melanoleucus sayi
Checkered garter snake	Thamnophis marcianus marcianus
Plains leopard frog	Lithobates blairi
Prairie rattlesnake	Crotalus viridis viridis

Table 3.4 – Amphibians and Reptiles Identified at Pantex Plant During 2020

Documentation of three county occurrence records were published in the *Herpetological Review*. These included past records on western diamondback rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*; Ray and Schoenhals 2020a), eastern hognose snake (*Hetorodon platirhinos*; Ray and Schoenhals 2020b), and eastern yellow-belly racer (*Coluber constrictor flaviventris*; Ray and Kazmaier 2020).

Phrynosoma cornutum

Texas horned lizard

### 3.4.5 Pollinators

In support of the Presidential Memorandum, Sustainable Practices for Designed Landscaping and Supporting Pollinators on Federal Landscapes, and the DOE's Pollinator Protection Plan, Pantex Plant continued a contract with the University of Oklahoma's Plains Institute for research exploring the potential of weather radar for monitoring migrations of insect pollinators. In particular, it was hoped that the study could prove valuable information in developing a monitoring tool for the monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus), a species that has been proposed for listing as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act.

Results from this study showed great promise for studying monarch migration behavior and next generation radar (NEXRAD) as a tool for monitoring migrations and population. During 2020, Pantex Plant and collaborators presented shared research results from these studies at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

### 3.4.6 Nuisance Animal Management

In 2020, Environmental Compliance Department (ECD) staff addressed 121 nuisance animal situations. These involved feral cats, rock pigeons, and thirteen wildlife species. Fourteen striped skunks were trapped and delivered to the Amarillo Animal Welfare and Management Facility by ECD. Seven rock pigeons were harvested by Security in 2020.

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources identified at Pantex Plant include archeological sites from prehistoric Native Americans; standing structures that were once part of the World War II (WWII)-era Pantex Ordnance Plant (1942-1945); and buildings, structures, and equipment associated with Pantex Plant's Cold War operations (1951-1991). In addition, many artifacts and historical documents have been preserved which are valuable sources for interpreting prehistoric and historic human activities at Pantex Plant. Some of these cultural resources are eligible for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places (National Register)*, thus requiring protection and preservation under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and related Cultural

Resource Management (CRM) requirements. Pantex Plant's CRM program ensures compliance with all applicable state and federal requirements.

The goal of the CRM program is to manage Pantex Plant's cultural resources efficiently and systematically, taking into account both Pantex Plant's continuing mission and historic preservation concerns. This goal is achieved through coordination with Pantex Plant's project review process for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Advisory Council). In October 2004, DOE, Pantex Plant, the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council completed execution of a Programmatic Agreement/Cultural Resource Management Plan (PA/CRMP) (PANTEXa). The PA/CRMP provides for the systematic management of all archeological and historic resources at Pantex Plant under a single document. It ensures compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, providing for more efficient and effective review of Pantex Plant projects having the potential to impact prehistoric, WWII era, and Cold War era properties, objects, artifacts, and records. In addition, the PA/CRMP outlines a range of preservation activities planned for Pantex Plant's compliance program. No changes were made to the program in 2020. NNSA Production Office (NPO) and Pantex Cultural Resources staff began consultation with the Texas SHPO, Advisory Council, Native American tribes, and interested parties to revise and update the PA/CRMP. A signed and approved document is expected in 2021.

# 3.5.1 Archeology

Pantex Plant lies within the southern Great Plains archeological province; specifically, it is within the High Plains Ecological Region of the Texas Panhandle. Approximately half of the DOE-owned and leased land at Pantex Plant has been systematically surveyed for archeological resources. Based upon those surveys, a site-location model was developed. In 1995, a 2,400-ac survey confirmed that prehistoric archeological sites at Pantex Plant are situated within approximately 0.25 mile of playas or their major drainage locations. Conversely, such sites do not occur in inter-playa upland areas (Largent, 1995).

Sixty-nine archeological sites have been identified at Pantex Plant consisting of 57 Native American prehistoric sites, represented by lithic scatters of animal bone artifacts, and 12 Euro-American farmstead sites, represented by foundation remains and small artifact scatters. In consultation with the SHPO, Pantex Plant determined that the 12 historic sites are not eligible for inclusion in the *National Register*. Pantex Plant and the SHPO concluded that two of the 57 prehistoric sites (41CZ66 and 41CZ23) are potentially eligible for the *National Register*, but that additional field work would be required to make a final eligibility determination. Pantex Plant will continue to protect these two sites and monitor them on a regular basis, as though they are eligible. If additional features are exposed and found, excavation will proceed if they cannot be adequately protected in-situ. These exposed features will be analyzed, mapped, collected and excavated by appropriate archeological methods. All archeological reports, records, photographs, maps and artifacts will be archived at Pantex Plant in accordance with applicable federal regulations. In addition, 22 of the prehistoric sites are protected within playa management units surrounding the four DOE-owned playas.

In the fall of 1996, Pantex Plant personnel monitoring for erosion discovered a number of large bones belonging to a bison. An emergency excavation was completed under the supervision of a qualified archeologist. The bones were identified, preserved, and placed in a permanent exhibit within the Pantex Visitor Center.

In 2020, staff members monitored archeological sites on four separate occasions. Staff members found zero artifacts during the year.

# 3.5.2 World War II

In 1942, the U.S. Army Ordnance Department chose this site for construction of a bomb-loading facility. The 16,000 ac industrial Pantex Ordnance Plant, designed and constructed in only nine months, sprang up in the middle of a traditional rural farming and ranching community, bringing with it great social and demographic change. It was constructed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and operated by the Certain-teed Products Corporation to produce bombs and artillery shells.

The WWII-era historical resources of Pantex Plant consist of 118 standing buildings and structures, all of which have been surveyed and recorded. In consultation with the SHPO, Pantex Plant has determined that these properties are not eligible for inclusion in the *National Register* within a WWII context. The WWII era buildings and structures have been preserved to some extent through survey documentation, photographs, individual site forms, and oral histories.

The Pantex Visitor Center includes a WWII exhibit, which includes world events from the beginning of the fundamental activities for tactical and thermonuclear weapons that were developed and proved, to the creation of physical infrastructure of the nuclear weapon complex that lead to the growth of the stockpile and its effect on Pantex Plant.

The Pantex Records Operation Center continues to maintain and store historical records and a variety of different media for preservation purposes. Records include facility maps, aerial maps and additional Cold War as-built drawings, as well as Pantex Plant layout plans of former zones. In addition, a collection of Cold War-era photographs, written material, and other items have been collected and stored.

# 3.5.3 Cold War

The NHPA typically applies only to historic properties that are at least 50 years old unless they are of "exceptional importance" (NPS Bulletin 15). Sixty-nine buildings constructed during WWII and used during the Cold War are eligible for inclusion in the *National Register* under the Cold War context. Many properties at Pantex Plant are associated with the Cold War arms race and are of exceptional importance. As a final assembly, maintenance, surveillance, and disassembly facility for the nation's nuclear weapons arsenal, Pantex Plant lies at the very heart of Cold War history.

The period of Cold War operations at Pantex Plant date from 1951 to September 1991. In 1951, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) reclaimed Pantex Plant as part of the expansion of the nuclear weapons complex. In September 1991, the Pantex Plant mission changed from one of nuclear weapon assembly to one of disassembly when President, George H.W. Bush addressed the nation, directing the dismantlement of a portion of the nation's nuclear weapon stockpile. The Cold War-era historical resources of Pantex Plant consist of approximately 590 buildings and structures and a large inventory of process-related equipment and documents. The historical resources of this period are among Pantex Plant's most significant, and offer a valuable contribution to the nation's cultural heritage.

Pantex Plant Master Site Plan, 2017-2040, specifically lists improvements and preservation of buildings listed in the PA/CRMP for in-situ preservation (PANTEXd). The ten facilities designated for in-situ preservation are additionally included in all NEPA reviews. Cultural resources management personnel review NEPA documentation to identify adverse effects on historical structures, objects, and archeological sites. Historical equipment, tooling, trainers, and other components have been and continue to be acquired, inventoried, and moved into a historical facility. Preservation activities continue through the identification and evaluation of facilities, maintaining the Pantex Visitor Center and railcar displays, collection of artifacts and records, monitoring archeological sites, educational outreach, and other preservation activities. Thirtynine outreach activities for Pantex Plant history occurred in CY 2020, including history presentations to

newly hired staff members, students, and community leaders. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, outreach opportunities were limited in 2020. These projects strengthen continued use of the historical facilities, and confirm the Pantex Plant pledge for implementing preservation activities.

# 3.6 EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Pantexans donated their time and talent to area schools by speaking to students about the various careers that are available at Pantex. Engineer Week, in February, helps stimulate students' interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. For 29 years, the Pantex Regional Science Bowl has given middle school and high school students across the Texas Panhandle a chance to compete for the opportunity to advance to the National Science Bowl. In addition, Pantex Plant supported area schools with their robotics programs.

Because of the pandemic, events looked a little different this year. The events that were held were done virtually. Pantexans showed their ability to be flexible and help make each one a success. This year more than ever, our community needed financial help, and CNS Pantex stepped up to help with COVID-19 relief donations to United Way and Amarillo Area Foundation.

# 3.7 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

Historical waste management practices at Pantex Plant resulted in impacts to on-site soil and perched groundwater. These historical practices included disposal of spent solvents in unlined pits and sumps, and disposal of high explosive (HE) wastewater and industrial wastes into unlined ditches and playas. As a result, HEs, solvents, and metals were found in the soil at solid waste management units (SWMUs) at Pantex Plant and in the uppermost (perched) groundwater beneath Pantex Plant. Pantex Plant and regulatory agencies identified 254 units for further investigation and cleanup. Investigations that identified the nature and extent of contamination at SWMUs and associated groundwater were submitted to the TCEQ and EPA in the form of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation Reports. Those investigation reports closed many units through Interim Remedial Actions and No Further Action determinations. Other units were evaluated in human health and ecological risk assessments to identify further remedial actions necessary to protect human health and the environment. Figure 3.5 depicts the location and status of the units. The 15 units still in active use will be closed in accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and RCRA permit provisions when they become inactive, are determined to be of no further use, and funding is obtained for investigation, cleanup, and closure of the site. One of these units is now inactive and funding has been requested to address the formerly active site.

- Those units requiring further remedial actions were assessed in a Corrective Measures Study to identify and recommend final remedial actions. A detailed summary of actions for the 254 units can be found in the *Pantex Site-Wide Record of Decision (ROD)*, (Pantex Plant and Sapere, 2008). The final approved remedial actions are detailed in the ROD. On-going remedial actions focus on: Cleanup and removal of perched groundwater to protect the underlying drinking water aquifer,
- Removal of soil gas and residual non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) in the soil at the Burning Ground for future protection of groundwater resources,
- Institutional controls to protect workers, control perched groundwater use, and control drilling into and through perched groundwater, and
- Maintenance of soil remedies (ditch liner and soil covers) for groundwater protection.

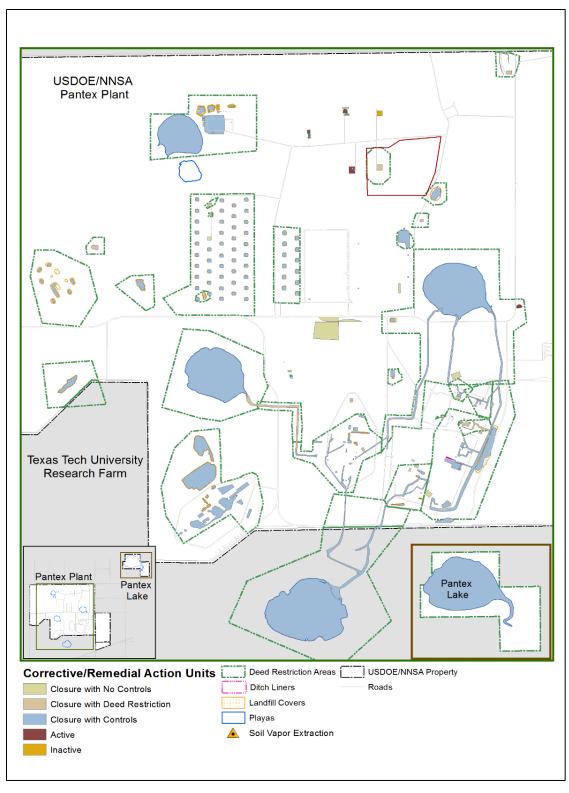


Figure 3.5 – Location and Status of Solid Waste Management Units

### 3.7.1 Environmental Restoration Milestones

During 2020, Pantex Plant completed several milestones under the continued Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) of environmental units. LTS includes the long-term Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the remediation systems, monitoring of the systems to ensure that cleanup goals established in the ROD and Pantex Hazardous Waste Permit will be met, maintenance of soil remedies and institutional controls, and reporting of that information to regulatory agencies and the public. Major Milestones for the 2020 Remedial Actions are shown in Figure 3.6 and Remedial Action Systems at Pantex Plant are depicted in Figure 3.7.



# Pump and Treat Systems

2020

Since Startup

- •Removed & treated 99 Mgal
- 2.9 Bgal treated
- •Benefically used 4 percent of treated water
- 1.7 Bgal used beneficially 15,500 lbs removed
- •Removed 398 lbs of contaminants



# In-Situ Bioremediation Systems

- •Successfully treating high explosives, perchlorate and TCE
- •Injections were completed in 2020 at the Zone 11 ISB and Southeast ISB Extension



# Soil Vapor Extraction System (SVE)

- Removed approximately 269 lbs of volatile organics in 2020
- >21,200 lbs removed since startup
- Evaluating system for closure or change to a passive system

Figure 3.6 – Major Milestones for 2020 Remedial Actions

To reach the goal of reducing saturated thickness, the Pump and Treat Systems have a goal of operating 90 percent of the time and at 90 percent of treatment capacity if the wastewater treatment facility and irrigation system can receive all of the treated water. Pantex Plant revised the goals during 2014 to prioritize treatment and use of the water to align operation with the goal of reducing saturated thickness. During 2020, only four percent of the treated water was beneficially used due to the shutdown of the subsurface irrigation system resulting from the filter bank break that occurred in 2017. Performance of the Pump and Treat Systems for 2020 is depicted in Figure 3.8.

Engineering evaluations of the irrigation filter bank break indicated that repairs are complex and will take an extended period of time. For this reason, treated water has been discharged to Playa 1 or injected into the perched groundwater since the shutdown of the system. Since the discharge to Playa 1 and injection near the Southeast Pump and Treat System (SEPTS) do not align with goals to reduce water infiltration to the perched aquifer, Pantex Plant reduced operation and throughput at the systems. To improve capture of the plumes moving to the southeast, operation and throughput from Playa 1 Pump & Treat System (P1PTS)



# **Groundwater Remedies:**

- 2 Pump & Treat Systems
  - o Playa 1 Pump and Treat
  - o Southeast Pump and Treat
- 3 In-Situ Bioremediation (ISB) Systems
  - o Zone 11 ISB
  - o Southeast ISB
  - o Southeast ISB Extension
- Institutional Controls

# Soil Remedies:

- Ditch Liner
- Soil Covers on Landfills
- Fencing at FS-5 to control use/access
- Institutional Controls
- Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) System
- Institutional Controls

Figure 3.7 – Remedial Action Systems at Pantex Plant

was reduced to once quarterly so that SEPTS could be fully operated. A combination of the injection and the discharge of treated water to Playa 1 is currently used to manage the treated water from the systems. To reduce the need for release to Playa 1 or injection into perched aquifer wells, Pantex Plant contracted for the design of surface irrigation components at Plant property east of FM 2373 in 2020. Construction of the irrigation system will begin in 2021.

Operation of the pump and treat systems was also impacted by a shutdown for COVID-19 while plans were put in place to have workers safely return to operate the systems. The pause caused a shutdown from April 9 to June 24.

In addition to removing impacted water from the perched aquifer, the pump and treat systems remove contaminant mass from the groundwater that is extracted from the aquifer. The P1PTS primarily removes the HE RDX and the SEPTS primarily removes RDX and hexavalent chromium. Figure 3.9 provides the mass removal for HEs and chromium for 2020, as well as totals since startup of the systems. The SEPTS has been operating longer, and the greatest concentrations of HEs are found in the SEPTS extraction well field, so mass removal is higher at that system.

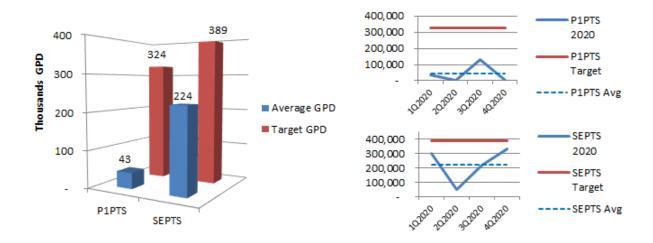


Figure 3.8 – Pump and Treat Systems Performance

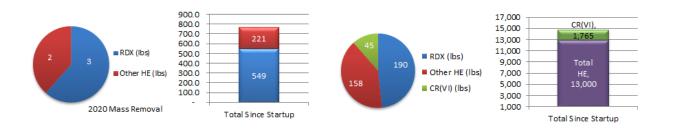


Figure 3.9 – Pump and Treat Systems Operation and Mass Removal

**SEPTS Mass Removal** 

**P1PTS Mass Removal** 

# 3.7.2 In-Situ Bioremediation Systems

Three In-Situ Bioremediation (ISB) systems (Zone 11 ISB, Southeast ISB, and Southeast ISB Extension) are in operation at Pantex Plant where pump and treat technology is not effective. These systems are designed with closely spaced wells to set up a treatment zone in areas of the perched groundwater to control plumes migrating off-site, to Texas Tech University (TTU) property south of Zone 11, or where the area is sensitive to vertical migration of contaminants of concern (COCs) to the underlying aquifer. Amendment is injected into the treatment zone to provide a food source for naturally occurring bacteria that break down the COCs. Monitoring wells were installed downgradient of the groundwater flow from the treatment systems to monitor whether the system is effectively degrading the COCs. A discussion of treatment zone effectiveness and downgradient performance monitoring well information is included in Chapter 6. Pantex Plant started injecting the new Southeast ISB Extension in 2019. The new system was designed to arrest further movement of COCs to off-site areas. A new off-site treatment system has been designed to treat COCs that have already moved off-site. Pantex Plant began installation of the offsite system in 2020, with installation being phased through 2023.

### 3.7.3 Burning Ground Soil Vapor Extraction

A Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system was installed and has been operating at the Burning Ground since February 2002. After a large-scale system remediated a significant area at the Burning Ground, a small-scale activated carbon system was installed in late 2006 after the large-scale system became inefficient at continued removal of remaining soil gas and residual NAPL. The current system, consisting of a small-scale catalytic oxidizer and wet scrubber, was installed in early 2012 to replace the activated carbon system. The system was modified in 2017 to increase air flow through the soils to increase remediation and evaluate the system for closure. The current system continues to focus on treating residual soil gas and NAPL at a single well

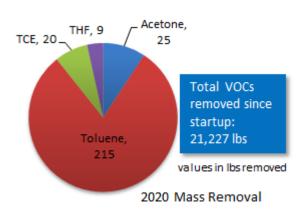


Figure 3.10 – 2020 SVE Mass Removal

(SVE-S-20) where soil gas concentrations continue to remain high. As depicted in Figure 3.10, the SVE system removed about 269 lbs. of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) during 2020. As expected, concentrations and mass removal of VOCs continues to decrease at the system.

# 3.7.4 Soil Remedies and Institutional Controls

Institutional controls are required as part of the LTS of soil remedial action units at Pantex Plant. Deed restrictions have been placed on all soil units with the exception of the active units. All SWMUs at Pantex Plant are restricted to industrial use. To support the deed restrictions, Pantex Plant maintains long-term control of any type of soil disturbance in SWMUs to protect human health and to prevent spread of contaminated soils. Pantex Plant also regularly inspects and maintains soil covers on landfills to prevent infiltration of water into the landfill contents and migration of impacted water to groundwater. The ditch liner is also regularly inspected and maintained to prevent infiltration of water through soils that have been impacted by past releases.

### 3.7.5 Second Five-Year Review

The five-year review is conducted to ensure that Remedial Actions for soils and groundwater at Pantex Plant remain protective of human health and the environment. Pantex Plant started the second five-year review in May 2017 and regulatory approval for the final report was received in September 2018. The results of the review indicate that the selected remedy is performing as intended and is protective of human health and the environment in the short-term because there are no completed exposure pathways to human or environmental receptors for soil or perched groundwater. In order to achieve long-term protectiveness of human health and the environment, O&M of the remedial action systems must continue and enhancements to existing systems and institutional controls need to be evaluated, planned, and implemented. Pantex Plant is currently working towards completing the action items included in the approved five-year review. The action items are scheduled for completion before the next five-year review.

### 3.7.6 Long-Term Groundwater Monitoring

Pantex Plant transitioned to the Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) network in July 2009. The groundwater monitoring network was developed to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedial actions. The evaluation is conducted to ensure that the remedial system is effective in stabilizing plumes and meeting cleanup goals, detecting any new COCs from source areas or in the drinking water aquifer, and to evaluate the presence and amount of natural attenuation that may be occurring in the groundwater plumes. The monitoring information collected is evaluated and reported in annual and quarterly progress reports and is summarized in Chapter 6 of this report. The quarterly and annual reports can be found at <a href="https://www.pantex.energy.gov">www.pantex.energy.gov</a>.

#### 3.8 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

DOE Order 458.1 *Radiation Protection of the Public and Environment*, requires the performance of monitoring that is integrated with the general environmental surveillance<sup>5</sup> and effluent monitoring<sup>6</sup> program in order to:

- Assess impacts;
- Characterize exposures and doses to individual members of the general public, to the population, and to biota in the vicinity of Pantex Plant;
- Detect, characterize and respond to releases from DOE activities; and
- Demonstrate compliance with applicable regulatory and permit limits.

The monitoring program with its associated planning, implementation, and assessment phases was designed based upon the system described in the EPA's EPA QA/G-1, Guidance for Developing Quality Systems for Environmental Programs (EPAb). Another document useful in the continuous improvement of the design of the Pantex Plant monitoring program was National Council on Radiation Protection (NCRP) Report No. 169 (NCRPa) published by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements. Although this document specifically addresses radiological effluent monitoring and surveillance, the authors note that many of the concepts described are appropriate for non-radiological contaminants that must also be monitored.

Planning for the environmental monitoring program begins with the development of (or revision of previously existing) monitoring requirements by the various environmental subject matter experts (for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Environmental surveillance refers to measurements performed throughout the environment where it is assumed that a particular substance, sometimes referred to as a contaminant, is well-mixed in the environment and the concentration of the substance in a collected sample is representative of its actual concentration in the environment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Effluent monitoring refers to the collection and analysis of samples at or before their entry into the environment.

environmental media including but not limited to air, water, soil, and biota) by a process based upon that described in *EPA QA/G4*, *Guidance for Data Quality Objective Process* (EPAc). When planning sample collection locations and frequencies for various environmental media, subject matter experts must consider several factors including:

- Purpose of the monitoring program;
- Trend of historical results from previous sampling;
- Predominant wind direction; and
- Presence of a sufficient quantity of a target species for analysis.

Through permits issued to Pantex Plant, specifications for sampling locations and frequencies by a regulatory body (such as TCEQ or EPA) have also been used in the development of certain monitoring programs. When feasible, sample plans included taking samples at the same geographical location for several environmental media to allow an individual media scientist to compare results from other media and determine the usability of the data. Due to the minimal number of points where measurable quantities of radiological and non-radiological contaminants can be directly measured and compared to some risk-based standard, the majority of planned sampling locations are best characterized as surveillance locations.

The implementation of these plans begins with the collection of samples by technicians using procedures contained within an Environmental Sampling and Analysis Manual. In addition to procedures common to all environmental media (such as those associated with completion of sampling logs and Chain-of-Custody forms), the aforementioned manual contains procedures specific to each different environmental media. These specific procedures are based upon the collection protocols included in different national consensus standards.<sup>7</sup> The majority of the analyses of Pantex Plant environmental samples are completed by independent laboratories under a scope of work that requires the analysis of Pantex Plant samples be conducted by protocols that are equivalent to those in consensus standards.<sup>8</sup> In some instances, analysis results were not available due to drought conditions, electrical power failures during sample collection, or laboratory errors during analysis.

Data assessment processes were employed by Pantex Plant to verify that the data collected for the monitoring programs met the specified data acceptance criteria. These processes included evaluation of sampling quality assurance (QA), laboratory technical performance and QA, and data verification and validation. Chapter 13 in this document contains a discussion of the program used to ensure that the environmental monitoring data meet the appropriate data quality requirements.

The results of the data assessment processes described above and management reviews performed for the monitoring programs were then used as feedback for periodic revisions of the monitoring requirements. The revisions may include changes to the analytes being monitored, as wells as locations and frequencies of sample collection.

Media-specific descriptions of the sampling locations and the results of the monitoring program for samples collected during 2020 are contained in Chapters 4-12 of this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Examples of consensus standards include "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater" published by the American Public Health Association with the assistance of other similar organizations and "Methods of Air Sampling and Analysis" compiled by an intersociety committee including the Air and Waste Management Association, the American Chemical Society, the Health Physics Society and other similar organizations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> A limited number of analyses including those for preliminary analysis of certain water samples are performed on-site. In addition Radiation Safety Department personnel perform analyses of the environmental TLDs discussed in Chapter 4.

# **Chapter 4 - Environmental Radiological Program**

Pantex Plant's environmental radiological monitoring program is conducted according to the Department of Energy (DOE) Order 458.1, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment (DOEb). The program involves measuring radioactivity in environmental samples in addition to calculating the potential radiological dose to the off-site public. The program monitors for the principal radionuclides in air, groundwater, drinking water, surface water, flora, and fauna samples associated with Pantex Plant operations: tritium, uranium-234 (U-234), uranium-238 (U-238), and plutonium-239 (Pu-239). The radionuclides U-234, U-238, and Pu-239 emit primarily alpha particles although gamma radiation emissions from these radionuclides were also monitored and evaluated. Tritium emits beta particles.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- Monitoring results for the environmental radiological pathways in 2020 indicated levels below relevant standards, similar to results from previous years, and consistent with background conditions.
- There were no unplanned releases of radioactive material during 2020.

# 4.1 RADIOLOGICAL DISCHARGES AND DOSES<sup>10</sup>

DOE Order 458.1 requires radiological activities be conducted in a manner so that exposure to members of the public from ionizing radiation from all DOE sources and exposure pathways shall not cause, in a year, a total effective dose greater than 100 mrem (1 mSv). At Pantex Plant, demonstration of compliance with this limit is documented by a combination of measurements and calculations including the comparison of concentrations of radioactive material in air and water to Derived Concentration Standards (DCS) listed in DOE-STD-1196-2011, *DOE Derived Concentration Technical Standard* (DOEe). The DCS values were derived in accordance with dose limitation systems recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) in its several publications (ICRPa) and used by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other regulatory bodies including DOE in establishing standards for radiological protection. The regulatory limits are purposely set at levels well below those known to cause any adverse effects on the public and/or the environment.

### 4.1.1 External Radiation Pathways

DOE Order 458.1 requires evaluations to demonstrate compliance with the dose limits described in Section 4.1, above. It is DOE and Pantex Plant policy that radiological activities at Pantex Plant are designed to ensure that any dose above that due to background radiation is as low as reasonably achievable. Evaluations consider several exposure pathways including direct external radiation from sources located on-site, external radiation from airborne radioactive material, and external radiation from radioactive material deposited on surfaces off-site. At Pantex Plant, external gamma radiation is measured at several locations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The alpha energies of U-233 and U-234 are very similar, as are the alpha energies for Pu-239 and Pu-240. Alpha-spectroscopy techniques used to perform analyses cannot distinguish between the two isotopes in either case. Accordingly, a single analysis result will indicate both isotopes in the respective pairs as U-233/234 and Pu-239/240.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Radiological results are reported in units that are specific to different types of exposure and environmental media (i.e., air, water, etc.). See Appendix H.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The DCS values listed in the technical standard represent the concentration of a given radionuclide in either air or water that would result in a member of the public receiving an effective dose of 100 mrem following continuous exposure for one year for each of the following pathways: ingestion of water, air contact, and inhalation.

at or near the site to determine the magnitude of any dose from these pathways. Additionally, external radiation dose is measured at numerous locations around the perimeter of the Pantex Plant by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) Laboratory Services Section (TDSHS 2021). Measurements of external radiation, collected by Pantex Plant and the State of Texas, continue to indicate that activities at Pantex Plant do not contribute significantly to the exposure of members of the public to ionizing radiation.

### 4.1.2 Air Pathway

DOE Order 458.1 further requires that internal doses <sup>12</sup> to members of the public from inhalation of airborne effluents be evaluated using the EPA's Clean Air Act Assessment Package -1988 (CAP-88-PC) model (or another EPA-approved model or method) to demonstrate compliance with applicable subparts of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 61, *National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants*. Compliance with the limit for emissions to the airborne pathway of radionuclides other than radon established by the EPA in 40 CFR 61.92 is demonstrated at Pantex Plant by calculating the effective dose equivalent received by the maximally exposed individual (MEI)<sup>13</sup> member of the general public by the use of the CAP-88-PC (EPAd) model.

Meteorological data used in this modeling effort was obtained from the meteorological tower from the Amarillo National Weather Service station at the Rick Husband International Airport. The source term for releases to air was calculated based on process knowledge of the releases of radionuclides from the routine operations at Pantex Plant (e.g., calibration of radiation detection instrumentation and operations at the Burning Ground and Firing Sites), the number of operations conducted during the year, and other modifying factors. In estimating the emissions, conservative assumptions concerning the form of the radioactive material and the presence or absence of engineering controls such as high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters are made to ensure that maximum potential emissions are modeled. A small percentage (0.0044 percent) of these calculated emissions is due to emissions of U-238 and other radionuclides from various routine Pantex Plant activities, while the balance is due to emissions of tritium. These emissions are summarized in Table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1 – Pantex Plant Radiological Atmospheric Emissions in Curies (Bq)

Tritium	Total Uranium	Total Plutonium	Total Other Actinides	Other
4.20E-3	4.73E-10	None	None	2.06E-10
(1.55E+08)	(1.75E+01)	None	None	(7.63E+00)

Based on the 2020 operational data, the results of the CAP-88-PC modeling indicate that the MEI for 2020 located approximately 2.3 km northeast (NE) of Zone 12 would have received a dose of 1.27 E-07 mrem (1.27 E-09 mSv). This dose is significantly below the EPA's maximum permissible exposure limit to the public of 10 mrem/yr. specified in 40 CFR 61, Subpart H. The indicated dose is also equivalent to 1.27E-08 percent of the DOE Public Dose Limit for all pathways. Based upon the same CAP-88-PC modeling results, the collective population dose equivalent received by those living within 80 km (50 mi) of Pantex Plant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Internal doses to organs or tissues of an organism which are due to the intake of radionuclides by ingestion, inhalation, or dermal absorption (NCRPc).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The MEI is a person who resides near Pantex Plant, and who would receive, based on theoretical assumptions about lifestyle, the maximum exposure to radiological emissions and therefore, the highest effective dose equivalent from Plant operations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The overwhelming majority, approximately 99.9 percent, of these emissions arose from activities conducted within the southern portion of Zone 12. The balance of the emissions arose from operations conducted at the Burning Ground and Firing Sites.

would have been 7.23E-07 person-rem/year (7.23E-09 person-Sievert/year) in 2020. The majority of this collective population dose equivalent is contributed by tritium.

As in previous years, the effective dose equivalent for the MEI is substantially less than 0.001%, i.e., less than one 1000<sup>th</sup> of a percent, of the regulatory limit. Effective dose equivalents for the last six years are shown in Table 4.2 below. Variation in the doses between years is due to changes in the emissions of tritium and isotopes of uranium associated with different operations such as instrument calibration, processing of certain high explosive components, and waste treatment operations during the different years. The collective population dose equivalent for the same years is also substantially less than 0.001% of the regulatory limit.

Table 4.2 – Effective Dose Equivalent for Maximally Exposed Individual Member of General Public during CYs 2014-2020

Year	Maximally Exposed Individual Dose (mrem)	Population Dose (Person-rem/yr.)
2015	1.35E-07	3.21E-06
2016	2.70E-05	9.94E-04
2017	7.60E-06	1.04E-05
2018	1.70E-06	2.41E-06
2019	7.24E-08	1.50E-07
2020	1.27E-07	7.23E-07

### 4.1.3 Water Pathway

In addition to promulgating the dose limit mentioned above, DOE Order 458.1 requires operators of DOE facilities discharging or releasing liquids containing radionuclides from DOE activities to conduct such activities in such a manner as to:

- Protect groundwater resources;
- Not cause private or public drinking water systems to exceed the drinking water maximum contaminant limits outlined in 40 CFR 141, *National Primary Drinking Water Regulations*; and
- Comply with other limitations as applicable.

Current Pantex Plant policy does not allow the discharge of radioactive material in liquid effluent discharges to groundwater or to sanitary sewers, thus eliminating any future potential impact to groundwater from those sources. Compliance with 40 CFR 141.66 maximum contaminant level (MCL) limitations for individual radionuclides potentially released from Pantex Plant activities, with the exception of tritium, is demonstrated by comparing measured concentrations of radionuclides in drinking water to four percent of the DCS values for ingested water. The results of these measurements as well as those for other water monitoring programs did not indicate releases to any water pathway and thus no contribution to the total effective dose from Pantex Plant activities during 2020.

### 4.1.4 Other Pathways

Pantex Plant has considered doses, which might arise from radioactive materials ingested with food from terrestrial crops, animal products, and aquatic food products (including plant as well as animal species).

 $<sup>^{15}</sup>$  The current average annual concentration of tritium tabulated in 40 CFR 141.66 which is assumed to produce the same four mrem dose equivalent is 20,000 pCi/L, or 2.0 x  $10^{-5}\,\mu\text{Ci/mL}$ , equal to one percent of the ingested water DCS for tritiated water listed in DOE-STD-1196-2011(DOEe).

The results of the faunal monitoring measurements and monitoring of native vegetation and crops did not indicate releases to either pathway from Pantex Plant activities during 2020.

As will be discussed in more detail below, the current program concerning the release of property containing residual material has been designed to ensure that such releases are ALARA. Public doses from this pathway are negligible.

### 4.1.5 Public Doses from All Pathways

The dose equivalent received by the MEI during 2020, the 2020 collective population dose, and the 2020 natural background population dose are presented in Table 4.3. Because there were no releases from Pantex Plant to the water or other pathways, the air pathway dose represents the public dose from all pathways.

Dose to Maximally Exposed Individual from Pantex Plant Operations mrem (mSv)	Percent of DOE 100- mrem Limit	Estimated Population Dose from Pantex Plant Operations person-rem (person-Sv)	Population within 80 km (50 mi)	Estimated Naturally Occuring Radiation Population Dose at Pantex Plant (person-rem)
1.27E-07 (1.27E-09)	1.27E-07	7.23E-07 (7.27E-09)	315,000	100,800

**Table 4.3 – Pantex Plant Radiological Doses in 2020** 

### 4.2 RELEASE OF PROPERTY CONTAINING RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

DOE Order 458.1 provides requirements for the clearance of potentially contaminated material and equipment (M&E) from Pantex Plant to the public. The order distinguishes real property (land and structures) from personal or non-real property (any materials not land and structures) in its discussion of clearance. To implement the requirements of the Order, DOE requires that the property that has been or is suspected of being contaminated with radioactive material be adequately surveyed (radiologically characterized) to ensure that the property meets pre-approved DOE authorized limits prior to clearance to the public. DOE Order 458.1 specifically indicates that previously approved guidelines and limits (such as those developed for compliance with DOE Order 5400.5) may continue to be applied and used as pre-approved authorized limits until they are replaced or revised by pre-approved authorized limits issued under the new order. Clearance of potentially radioactive contaminated M&E to the public is managed with the consistent and appropriate application of one set of clearance criterion based upon the surface activity guidelines established in DOE Order 5400.5.

Since 1993 Pantex Plant's clearance process, as stated in the *Pantex Radiological Control Manual* (PRCM) (PANTEXe), requires the Radiation Safety Department's (RSD's) evaluation of any potentially contaminated M&E using process and forms including:

- RSD approval for M&E that is to be excessed,
- PX-4008, Waste Operations Department Scrap Metal Disposition Form, for disposition of any scrap metal (in compliance with former Department of Energy Secretary Richardson's moratorium on recycling certain metals);
- PX-2643, Material Evaluation Form, for release of all waste,
- PX-691, Shipment Request, for release of outbound non-weapon shipments,

- PX-2189, *Radiation Safety Material Clearance*, for M&E not covered by one of the preceding method, and/or
- PX-3134, *Process Knowledge*, for non-radioactive M&E having no potential for radioactive contaminated surfaces.

The application of the Pantex Plant clearance process has resulted in no releases of personal property with surface contamination in excess of the indicated levels.

DOE Order 458.1 requires that personnel independent of contractor personnel conducting property clearance activities perform verification. At Pantex Plant, a Waste Certification Official who is independent from organizations producing, accumulating, transporting, or performing radiological characterizations and/or surveys of weapons components and certain categories of mixed low-level waste destined for burial at the Nevada National Security Site, performs the verification.

The volume of radiological waste generated at Pantex Plant during 2020 is discussed in Chapter 2. As there were no releases of real property containing residual radioactive material during 2020 those values represent the quantities of personal property released from Pantex Plant in 2020.

### 4.3 RADIATION PROTECTION OF BIOTA

DOE Order 458.1 contains no specific limits for radiation doses to aquatic animals, terrestrial plants, and terrestrial animals. However, it requires the use of DOE-STD-1153-2002, *A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota* (DOEf) or equivalent methodologies, to demonstrate that radiological activities are conducted in a manner that protects these populations from adverse effects due to radiation and radioactive material released from DOE operations. This requirement has the effect of limiting the dose to 1 rad/day (10 mGy/day) for aquatic animals and terrestrial plants and to 0.1 rad/day (1 mGy/day) for terrestrial animals.<sup>16</sup>

During 2020, there was sufficient precipitation near Playa 1, in addition to discharge from the wastewater treatment facility, for the collection of surface water and/or sediment samples. These samples were analyzed for tritium, U-234, U-235, U-238, and Pu-239/240. To implement the aforementioned standard, DOE-STD-1153-2002, A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota (DOEf), the radionuclide concentrations obtained were entered into the calculation tool, RAD-BCG provided by the DOE with the standard and compared to biota concentration guide (BCG) limits for aquatic and terrestrial systems in the technical standard. Estimated concentrations of the indicated radionuclides in the sediment were obtained by multiplying the measured aqueous concentrations by isotope-specific solid/solution distribution coefficients tabulated for the measured radionuclides in the standard. The value for each radionuclide was automatically divided by the BCG for that radionuclide to calculate a partial fraction for each nuclide for each medium. Partial fractions for each medium were added to produce a sum of fractions.

The dose limit for aquatic animals would not be exceeded if the sum of fractions for the water medium plus that for the sediment medium is less than 1.0. Similarly, the dose limits for both terrestrial plants and animals would not be exceeded if the sum of fractions for the water medium plus that for the soil medium is less than 1.0. The maximum site concentrations for each medium, applicable BCGs, partial fractions, and sums of fractions are listed in Tables 4.4a and 4.4b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> These dose limits have been developed and/or discussed by the NCRP, in *Effects of Ionizing Radiation on Aquatic Organisms, Report No. 109* (NCRPb), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in *Effects of Ionizing Radiation on Plants and Animals at Levels Implied by Current Radiation Protection Standard, Technical Report Series No. 332* (IAEAa).

Table 4.4a – Evaluation of Dose to Aquatic Biota in 2020

Nuclide	Water Conc. (pCi/L)	BCG (Water) (pCi/L)	Partial Fraction (Water)	Sediment Concentration (pCi/g)	BCG (Sediment) (pCi/g)	Partial Fraction (Sediment)	Sum of Fractions (Water & Sediment)
Tritium	< 0.001	2.31E+08	3.80E-12	0.129	3.74.E+05	3.44E-07	3.44E-07
U-234	0.158	2.02E+02	7.80E-04	0.706	5.27.E+03	1.34E-04	9.17E-04
U-235	< 0.001	2.17E+02	4.60E-06	0.0283	3.73.E+03	7.60E-06	1.22E-05
U-238	0.094	2.23E+02	4.20E-04	0.568	2.49.E+03	2.28E-04	6.49E-04
Pu-239	0.00482	1.87E+02	2.60E-05	0.012	5.86.E+03	2.05E-06	2.79E-05
Sum of Fractions			1.23E-03			3.72E-04	1.61E-03

Table 4.4b – Evaluation of Dose to Terrestrial Biota in 2020

Nuclide	Water Conc. (pCi/L)	BCG (Water) (pCi/L)	Partial Fraction (Water)	Soil Concentration (pCi/g)	BCG (Soil) (pCi/g)	Partial Fraction (Soil)	Sum of Fractions (Water & Soil)
Tritium	< 0.001	2.31E+08	4.33E-12	0.129	1.71E+05	7.55E-07	7.55E-07
U-234	0.158	4.04E+05	3.91E-07	0.706	5.13E+03	1.38E-04	1.38E-04
U-235	< 0.001	4.19E+05	2.39E-09	0.0283	2.83E+03	9.98E-06	9.99E-06
U-238	0.094	4.06E+05	2.32E-07	0.568	1.58E+03	3.60E-04	3.60E-04
Pu-239	0.00482	2.00E=05	2.41E-08	0.012	6.11E+03	1.96E-06	1.99E-06
Sum of Fractions			6.49E-07				5.11E-04

As the sum of fractions for the aquatic system and the terrestrial system are 1.61E-03 and 5.11E-04 respectively, applicable BCGs were met for both evaluations. Therefore, it can be concluded that populations of aquatic and terrestrial biota on and near Pantex Plant are not being exposed to doses in excess of the existing DOE dose limits.

### 4.4 UNPLANNED RELEASES

No unplanned releases of radioactive material occurred at Pantex Plant during 2020.

# 4.5 ENVIRONMENTAL RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING

With the exception of the environmental dosimetry program discussed herein, media-specific descriptions, as well as the results of any radiological surveillance monitoring for samples collected during 2020, are contained in Chapters 5-12 of this report.

# 4.5.1 Environmental Dosimetry

The environmental dosimetry program uses thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) to measure gamma radiation on and around Pantex Plant. This program has been conducted at several locations in parallel with monitoring conducted by the TDSHS<sup>17</sup> since the early 1980s. Figure 4.1 shows the locations of Pantex Plant and the TDSHS dosimeters during 2020. Additionally, dosimeters are placed each quarter at multiple locations across the industrial portion of the Pantex Plant as part of the personnel dosimetry program. These dosimeters provide additional documentation that dose from current operations is kept as low as reasonably achievable.

Pantex Plant's TLDs are generally placed at the same locations where Pantex Plant operates air monitors, as discussed further in Chapter 5. Pantex Plant's TLDs are analyzed and replaced at the end of each calendar quarter. This data provides the cumulative radiation exposure received while exposed to the environment over approximately 90 days of uninterrupted deployment at each location. Due to issues encountered during a certain part of calendar year 2020 with Pantex owned dosimetry equipment, data collected by the State of Texas pursuant to an Agreement in Principle funded by DOE/NNSA was used as replacement data that would have normally been collected from Pantex owned equipment. The State of Texas has a robust Quality Assurance/Quality Control program and historically, State of Texas monitoring data has closely aligned with Pantex monitoring data. State of Texas monitoring data was used in lieu of Pantex data for the second and third calendar quarter of 2020.

Table 4.5 lists results for 2020 and reflects the dose that an individual would have received at the dosimeter location if the person were present continuously for a full quarter. The average quarterly dose for all on-site locations, Pantex and TDSHS, during 2020 was approximately 35.7 mrem.

# 4.5.2 Future Radiological Monitoring

As discussed herein, media-specific subject matter experts periodically make revisions to the Pantex Environmental Monitoring Program based on process changes and potential impacts. The subject matter experts develop or revise monitoring requirements using a process based upon EPA guidance documents and consider potential releases from current DOE activities at the site. However, the subject matter experts also consider planned new activities identified in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process discussed in Chapter 2. Based upon pathway analyses the subject matter experts make adjustments to the monitoring program for their individual environmental media.

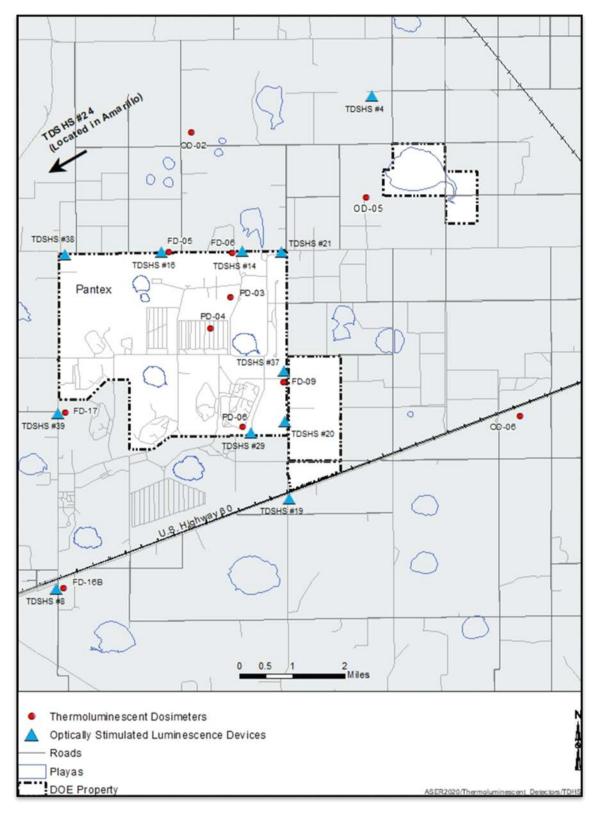
### 4.6 CONCLUSIONS

The environmental radiological monitoring program at Pantex Plant continues to document the doses produced by current operations at Pantex Plant are a small fraction of relevant limits set by EPA and DOE. Pantex Plant's monitoring results for the environmental radiological pathways in 2020 indicated levels below relevant standards, similar to results from previous years, and consistent with background conditions.

Measured and calculated doses to the public, workers, and the environment from Pantex Plant operations discussed above are a minute fraction of the 320 mrem dose estimated to be received from naturally occurring sources each year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The TDSHS used optically stimulated luminescence dosimeter devices similar in function to the TLDs used by Pantex Plant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> This exposure includes ubiquitous background (i.e. cosmic radiation) as well as that from Pantex Plant operations.



**Figure 4.1 – Locations of Pantex Plant TLDs** 

Table 4.5 – Average Quarterly Dose Measured in Millirem by Environmental Dosimeters

Location	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Locations On or Near Pantex Operations							
	(	Onsite					
Pantex (PD-03, 03, & 06)	33	24					
TDSHS (#20)	43	42	31	43			
TDSHS (#29)	,	$70^{\rm b}$	30	41			
	Fence Line						
Pantex (FD-05, 06, & 09)	35	a	a	23			
TDSHS (#8, 14, 16, 19, 21, 37, 38, & 39)	42	40	31	43			
	(	Offsite					
Pantex (OD-02, 05, & 06)	34	a	a	24			
TDSHS (#4)	40	39	30	42			
Control Locations							
Pantex (FD-16B & 17)	31	a	a	23			
TDSHS (#24)	38	34	30	38			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Pantex dosimeters were deployed and collected during Quarter 2 and Quarter 3, but analysis was delayed beyond established time limits due to equipment issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Optically stimulated luminescence dosimeter device deployed through both Quarter 1 and Quarter 2.

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# **Chapter 5 - Air Monitoring**

Some operations at Pantex Plant are sources or potential sources of airborne emissions. Monitoring, sampling, and tracking to detect possible airborne emissions of radiological or hazardous pollutants at Pantex Plant is conducted at on-site and off-site locations as a part of a comprehensive environmental surveillance program. Air monitors at fixed locations operate continually, sampling for radiological material to ensure operations are not having an impact on ambient air quality. Additionally, the Texas Department of State Health Services conducts air monitoring at a location on the northern boundary of the Pantex Plant.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- All of the radiological air monitoring data for 2020 indicated that results were below relevant Derived Concentration Standards set by regulatory agencies. In fact, all radionuclide measurements were below 0.1 percent of these comparison standards.
- Data from radiological air monitoring conducted by Pantex Plant and the State of Texas indicate that operations are not releasing radiological material that would have detrimental effects on the on- or off-site environments, workers, or the public.

### 5.1 NON-RADIOLOGICAL AIR MONITORING

Emissions from Pantex Plant operations are strictly limited by Air Quality Permit 84802, State of Texas regulations, and the Federal Clean Air Act. Emissions to the air from operations are tracked, documented, and reported based on the amounts of chemicals used and process knowledge.

### 5.2 RADIOLOGICAL AIR MONITORING

Current operations at Pantex Plant involve various radioactive materials including tritium (a radioactive isotope of hydrogen), plutonium, uranium, and miscellaneous sources (e.g., thorium, cobalt, and cesium) may be present in the components of nuclear weapons being managed. Rigorous operational controls, safety standards, and the physical form of the material reduce the potential for release of these radioactive materials to the environment, Pantex Plant personnel, or the public. As mentioned in Chapter 4 (Table 4.1), the majority of radionuclide releases at Pantex Plant are tritium. Very small amounts of tritium escape as gas or vapor during normal operations. Additionally, some tritium is released from the structural materials of a building where an accidental release of tritium occurred in 1989 (as described in the *Environmental Information Document* {PANTEXf}).

During 2020, Pantex Plant operated ten air monitoring stations. The location of these monitoring stations are shown in Figures 5.1 and 5.2. Two monitoring stations operated onsite, designated as PA-AR-XX; six stations operated along the boundary fence line, designated as FL-AR-XX; and two stations operated at offsite locations, designated as OA-AR-XX.

Onsite air monitoring stations are located near operating areas (Figure 5.1) where radiological material is packaged, handled, and stored. Station PA-AR-04 is located near the firing sites where high explosive components are detonated; some of these components can contain trace amounts of tritium. Station PA-AR-04 is also adjacent to the north fence of Zone 4 East. Since the predominant wind direction at Pantex Plant is from the southwest, south, and southeast (see the wind rose, Figure 1.2), this station monitors the ambient air associated with shipping and receiving operations conducted in Zone 4. Station PA-AR-06 is

located near an operations area involving the disassembly of nuclear weapons, the calibration of portable radiation detection instruments, and the packaging of radiological waste.

Fence line monitoring stations are located along Pantex Plant perimeter (Figure 5.1). The perimeter is defined as the perimeter that existed prior to the purchase of the property east of Farm-to-Market (FM) 2373 in the latter part of 2008. Two stations are located along the northern fence line, two stations are located along the eastern fence line, and two stations are located along the western fence line. Stakeholders were considered in establishing the locations of the stations. The Texas Department of State Health Services conducted monitoring for uranium and plutonium isotopes at a location near FL-AR-05.

Offsite stations, OA-AR-02 and OA-AR-06, are approximately 5 miles from the center of Pantex Plant (Figure 5.2).

The predominant wind direction at Pantex Plant is from the southwest, south, and southeast. Stations FL-AR-05, FL-AR-07, FL-AR-08, FL-AR-10, OA-AR-02, and OA-AR-06 are all located in the predominant downwind direction from Pantex Plant operations, i.e., the direction that radiological material would most likely be expected to travel. Monitoring stations FL-AR-16 and FL-AR-17 are located upwind of Pantex Plant, opposite the predominant wind directions. As indicated by the wind rose in Figure 1.2, the wind blows from the direction of the Pantex Plant operational areas towards FL-AR-16 and FL-AR-17 less than 20% of the time.

# 5.2.1 Collection of Samples

Each air monitoring station has a high-volume air sampler designed to collect solid particles on a filter and a low-volume air sampler designed to collect water vapor in silica gel. In Figure 5.3 the high-volume sampler is located on the left. These high-volume samplers collect solid particles by pulling air through a filter, much like a vacuum cleaner. The "doghouse" containing the low-volume sampler is on the right of Figure 5.3. Figure 5.4 shows the internal equipment for the low-volume air sampler, the U-shaped tube in the front of the equipment contains silica gel that collects water vapor from the air pulled through the tube. Samplers run continuously unless the equipment malfunctions or electric service is interrupted. Samplers are inspected, and filters or silica gel samples are collected on an approximately weekly basis. Sampling technicians record sampler operational characteristics, such sample collection period length, beginning flow rates, ending flow rates, and other parameters at the initiation and the completion of the weekly sampling activity.

The high-volume samplers operate at a flow rate of approximately 30 cubic feet per minute (ft<sup>3</sup>/min or more commonly cfm). During a seven day run period, particles from approximately 302,400 ft<sup>3</sup> of air are collected on 8×10-inch filters. Filters are collected approximately weekly, and all weekly filter samples for a given month are composited into one sample for analysis of uranium-234 (U-234), uranium-238 (U-238), and plutonium-239 (Pu-239) by an off-site radiological analysis laboratory.

Airflow through the low-volume air samplers is 1.5 ft<sup>3</sup>/min. The silica gel in the U-shaped tube acts as a desiccant, removing water vapor from air as it flows through the sampler. The silica gel samples are collected at the same time as the individual particle filters from the high-volume samplers. Water vapor present in the sampled air and absorbed in the silica gel is recovered and analyzed for tritium by a radiological analysis laboratory.

### 5.2.2 Sample Analysis Results

All analytical results obtained from the laboratory were converted to concentrations in air by dividing the quantity of radionuclides collected in the sample by the volume of air sampled. This quantity was calculated

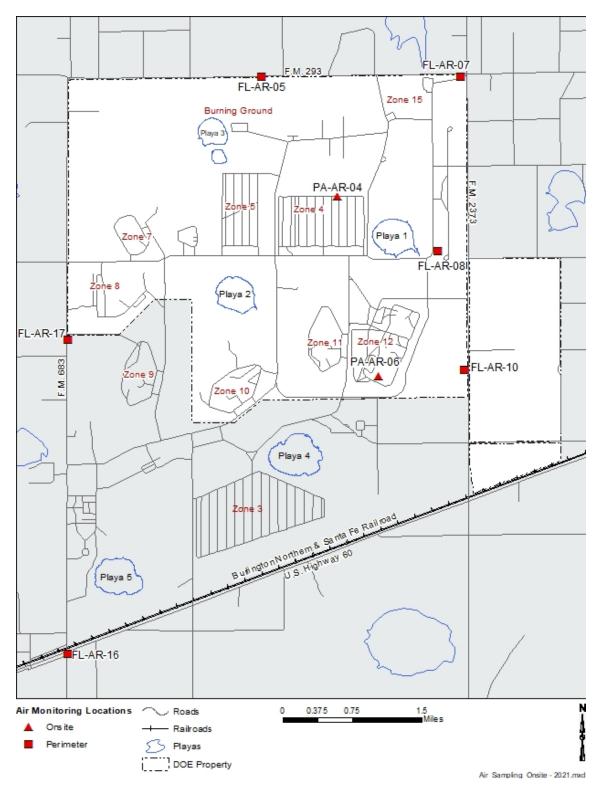
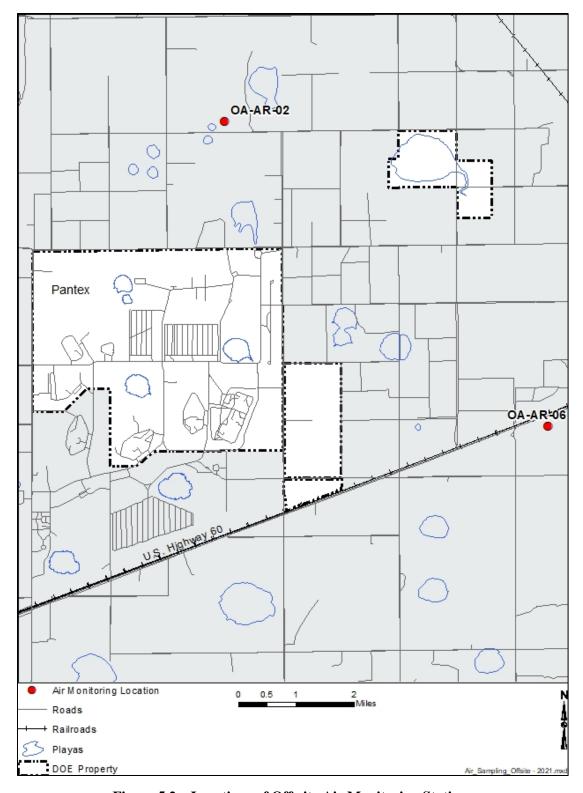


Figure 5.1 – Locations of On-site and Fence Line Air Monitoring Stations



**Figure 5.2 – Locations of Off-site Air Monitoring Stations** 



Figure 5.3 – Typical Air Monitoring Site



Figure 5.4 – Low-Volume Sampling Apparatus

using the operational characteristics recorded, and when necessary, temperature, pressure, and relative humidity data obtained from the meteorological tower described in Chapter 1. Table 5.1 summarizes the concentration values for tritium, U-234, U-238, and Pu-239 measured in samples collected from onsite, offsite, downwind, and upwind (control) monitoring stations. The values indicated are the mean plus-minus the standard deviation, the maximum value plus-minus its associated counting error, and the historical

background concentration measured at a control location near Bushland, Texas during 2013, 2014, and 2015. 19

Additionally, the mean and maximum concentrations are compared to the Derived Concentration Standard (DCS)<sup>20</sup>. The DCS value for each radionuclide are referenced from DOE-STD-1196-2011, *DOE Derived Concentration Technical Standard* (DOEe). These comparison standard values are derived in accordance with dose limitation systems recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) in its several publications (ICRPa) and used by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other regulatory agencies including DOE in establishing standards for radiological protection. These regulatory comparison standards are purposely set at levels well below those known to cause any adverse effects on the public and/or the environment.

Table 5.1 – Concentrations of Radionuclides in Air for 2020 at Onsite; Offsite; Downwind Upwind; and Downwind Locations (μCi/mL)

Onsite Locations, PA-AR-04 and PA-AR-06

Radionuclide	Number of Samples Analyzed/Planned	Mean ±Std. Dev.	Max ± Counting Error	Historical Background, at Control Location	DCS, Regulatory Comparison Value
Tritium <sup>a</sup>	56 of 62	$0.658 \pm 1.28$	$4.87 \pm 0.52$	1.320	14000
U-234 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$14.4 \pm 7.19$	$26.3 \pm 4.32$	30.400	400,000
U-238 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$13.4 \pm 6.75$	$23.8 \pm 4.06$	28.960	470,000
Pu-239 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$0.036 \pm 0.448$	$0.765 \pm 0.628$	0.930	240,000

# Offsite Locations, OA-AR-02 and OA-AR-06

Radionuclide	Number of Samples Analyzed/Planned	Mean ±Std. Dev.	Max ±Counting Error	Historical Background, at Control Location	DCS, Regulatory Comparison Value
Tritium <sup>a</sup>	59 of 62	$0.009 \pm 4.84$	$2.22 \pm 0.668$	1.320	14000
U-234 <sup>b</sup>	56 of 62	$15.9 \pm 6.71$	$29.7 \pm 4.61$	30.400	400,000
U-238 <sup>b</sup>	56 of 62	$16.2 \pm 6.42$	$29.1 \pm 4.54$	28.960	470,000
Pu-239 <sup>b</sup>	56 of 62	$0.158 \pm 0.467$	$0.783 \pm 0.736$	0.930	240,000

During 2020, air monitoring was curtailed between April and July due to personnel shortages during the COVID-19 Pandemic response. During the rest of the year, the equipment ran continuously collecting greater than 90 percent of the planned samples at all locations. Intermittent power losses or motor failures caused a number of high-volume and low-volume samples to be missed or resulted in non-representative sampling volumes.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> This historical background value is the upper confidence limit for a population consisting of all data for the specified radionuclide from the control location during the period from 2013-2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> DCS values represent the concentration of a given radionuclide in either water or air that results in a member of the public receiving 100 millirem (mrem) effective dose following continuous exposure for one year for either the ingestion of water, submersion in air, and air inhalation pathways. DOE-STD-1196-2011 (DOEe) lists several values of DCS for air inhalation for each radionuclide based upon the chemical form or the absorption class of the isotope.

Downwind Locations, FL-AR-05, FL-AR-07, FL-AR-08, and FL-AR-10

Radionuclide	Number of Samples Collected/Planned	Mean ±Std. Dev.	Max ±Counting Error	Historical Background, at Control Location	DCS, Regulatory Comparison Value
Tritium <sup>a</sup>	118 of 124	$0.264 \pm 1.29$	$10.2 \pm 1.99$	1.320	14,000
U-234 <sup>b</sup>	118 of 124	$16.7 \pm 9.49$	$39.5 \pm 6.34$	30.400	400,000
U-238 <sup>b</sup>	118 of 124	$16.8 \pm 9.45$	$41.6 \pm 6.54$	28.960	470,000
Pu-239 <sup>b</sup>	118 of 124	$0.169 \pm 0.305$	$0.772 \pm 0.893$	0.930	240,000

Upwind Locations, FL-AR-16 and Fl-AR-17

Radionuclide	Number of Samples Collected/Planned	Mean ±Std. Dev.	Max ±Counting Error	Historical Background, at Control Location	DCS, Regulatory Comparison Value
Tritiuma	58 of 62	$0.002 \pm 0.417$	$1.31 \pm 0.640$	1.320	14,000
U-234 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$15.7 \pm 7.51$	$30.5 \pm 4.66$	30.400	400,000
U-238 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$15.7 \pm 7.70$	$29.4 \pm 4.52$	28.960	470,000
Pu-239 <sup>b</sup>	60 of 62	$0.236 \pm 0.425$	$0.647 \pm 0.860$	0.930	240,000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Units in all tables are x 10<sup>-12</sup> μCi/mL (or aCi/mL) for tritium.

### **5.2.3** Data Interpretation

During 2020, the maximum measurements for the U-234, U-238, and Pu-239 occurred during periods in the spring and summer when high wind speeds were observed in the Texas Panhandle, which caused an increase in the re-suspension of dust into the atmosphere. The relative maxima were observed to be occurring both upwind and downwind of Pantex Plant, indicating that many of the maximum measurements represent the collection of increased quantities of naturally occurring radioactive material in local soil during these periods.

Statistical comparisons of the 2020 U-234 and U-238 sample data for the location categories (on-site, upwind, and downwind) indicate that all results are of the same magnitude, thus indicating that areas potentially affected by Pantex Plant operations are not distinguishable from background. The analysis laboratory indicated that less than three percent of the Pu-239 measurements were above the minimum detectable activity, thus apparent statistical differences across the three location categories are likely the result of the use of this uncensored data set. Average concentrations for all three alpha-emitting radionuclides are a minute fraction of levels that would cause a 100 mrem effective dose.

The ratio of the activities of U-234 and U-238 indicates radiological equilibrium between both radionuclides and suggests the absence of uranium discharges during Pantex Plant operations. The ratio of measured values of Pu-239 to its DCS are indistinguishable from zero, thus emissions of this isotope to ambient air are not indicated.

Variations in mission activities over the last several years may have resulted in various rates of emission of tritium and resulted in the apparent variations in measured concentrations of tritium during the period from 2016 through 2020. No tritium concentration in ambient air during 2020 (or any of the indicated years) exceeded the DCS. No measured concentration of tritium, uranium, or plutonium in ambient air exceeded the applicable DCS, or even 0.1% of this comparison value.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Units in all tables are x 10<sup>-18</sup> μCi/mL (or yCi/mL) for α-emitting radionuclides (U-233/234, U-238, and Pu-239/240)

# 5.3 CONCLUSIONS

Data from radiological air monitoring conducted by Pantex continue to indicate that operations at Pantex Plant are not releasing radiological material that would have detrimental effects on the onsite or offsite environments.

# **Chapter 6 - Groundwater Monitoring**

Groundwater monitoring at Pantex Plant began in 1975 when the first investigative wells were installed. Pantex Plant completed its investigations in 2005 with the identification of contaminant plumes in the perched groundwater beneath Pantex Plant and Texas Tech University (TTU) property. Monitoring wells in the perched groundwater are being used to monitor two remedial actions: two pump and treat systems, with 79 operating extraction wells and one injection well, and three In-Situ Bioremediation (ISB) systems consisting of 125 active treatment zone wells. Pantex Plant also monitors 24 wells in the deeper drinking water aquifer (Ogallala Aquifer) to verify the remedial actions remain protective of this resource.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- Groundwater data collected in 2020 demonstrated that current remedial actions continue to
  progress toward cleanup of perched groundwater contaminants and that constituent levels
  found in the deeper drinking water resource are below Environmental Protection Agency
  (EPA) drinking water standards or cleanup standards established for the Pantex Remedial
  Action.
- All major contaminants of concerns [Trichloroethylene (TCE), hexavalent chromium, perchlorate and Research Department Explosive (RDX)] have declining trends for all areas under the influence of an active remedial action.

### 6.1 GROUNDWATER AT PANTEX PLANT

Groundwater beneath Pantex Plant and vicinity occurs in the Ogallala and Dockum Formations at two intervals (Figure 6.1). The first water-bearing unit below Pantex Plant in the Ogallala Formation is a discontinuous zone of perched groundwater located at approximately 200 to 300 feet (ft.) below ground surface and 100 to 200 ft. above the drinking water aquifer. A zone of finegrained sediment (consisting of sand, silt, and clay) that created the perched groundwater is found between the perched groundwater and the underlying drinking water aquifer. The finegrained zone (FGZ) acts as a significant barrier to downward migration of contaminated water. The perched groundwater ranges in saturated thickness from less than a foot at the margins to more than 75 ft. beneath Playa 1. Perched groundwater forms by surface water in the playas that initially migrates down to the fine-grained zone. It then flows outward in a radial manner away from the playa lakes and becomes influenced by the regional south to southeast gradient. The largest area of perched groundwater beneath Pantex

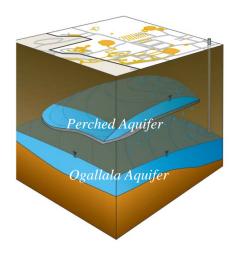


Figure 6.1 – Groundwater Beneath Pantex

Plant is associated with natural recharge from Playas 1, 2, and 4, treated wastewater discharge to Playa 1, historical releases to the ditches draining Zones 11 and 12, and storm water runoff that drains to the unlined ditches and playas. Two hydraulically separate, relatively small, perched zones occur around Playa 3 (near the Burning Ground in the north central portion of Pantex Plant) and near the Old Sewage Treatment Plant in the northeast corner of Pantex Plant.

The second water-bearing zone, the Ogallala Aquifer, is located below the fine-grained zone in the Ogallala and Dockum Formations. The Ogallala Aquifer is a primary drinking and irrigation water source for most

of the High Plains. The groundwater surface of the Ogallala Aquifer beneath Pantex Plant is approximately 400 to 500 ft. below ground surface with a saturated thickness of approximately one to 100 ft. in the southern regions of Pantex Plant and approximately 250 to 400 ft. in the northern regions. At Pantex Plant, the primary flow direction of the Ogallala Aquifer is north to northeast due to the influence of the City of Amarillo's well field located to the north of Pantex Plant.

Historical operations at Pantex Plant resulted in contamination of the larger perched groundwater area. The contaminant plume has migrated past Pantex Plant boundaries and beneath the adjacent property to the south and east. Most of the impacted property to the east was purchased in 2008 to allow better access for monitoring and control of perched groundwater. The primary contaminates of concern (COCs) in the perched aquifer are the explosives RDX and Trinitrotoluene (TNT) and related breakdown products, perchlorate, hexavalent chromium, and trichloroethene (Figure 6.2). With the exception of one domestic well north of Pantex Plant, no public or private water supply wells are completed in the perched groundwater in the immediate vicinity of Pantex Plant. The domestic well north of Pantex Plant is in an area that has not been impacted by historic operations.

Perched groundwater is not used for industrial purposes at Pantex Plant; however, the treated perched groundwater is routed through the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) and is beneficially used for subsurface irrigation of crops. Because concentrations of contaminants in the perched groundwater beneath Pantex Plant's property and off-site to the south and east currently exceed drinking water standards, the water is not safe for domestic or industrial use. Pantex Plant restricts on-site use of perched groundwater. TTU and one off-site property owner to the east have placed a deed restriction on their property to control use of perched groundwater and restrict drilling through the perched groundwater in areas that are impacted. Due to the expansion of the plumes to the southeast, Pantex Plant continues to work with off-site landowners to the southeast to gain agreements for cleanup and ensure water use is restricted.

### 6.2 LONG-TERM MONITORING NETWORK

The purpose of the Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) network is to ensure that Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) are being achieved. The RAOs and the corresponding LTM Network Monitoring Objectives are provided in the highlight box below.

### Remedial Action Objectives

- Reduce risk of exposure to perched groundwater through contact prevention
- Achieve cleanup standard for perched COCs
- Prevent growth of perched groundwater contaminant plumes
- Prevent COCs from exceeding cleanup standards in the drinking water aquifer

### LTM Network Monitoring Objectives

- Remedial action effectiveness
- Plume stability
- Uncertainty management
- Early detection

To ensure the achievement of the RAOs, wells and monitoring information were chosen with respect to specific objectives developed for the LTM network. The objectives are applied to perched and drinking water aquifer wells, as appropriate.

Pantex Plant developed an *LTM System Design Report* (PANTEXg) and a *Sampling and Analysis Plan* (*SAP*) (PANTEXh) to detail the LTM network and monitoring. The network monitoring information is evaluated quarterly, annually, and on a five-year basis. Evaluations increase in detail and complexity for each type of report.

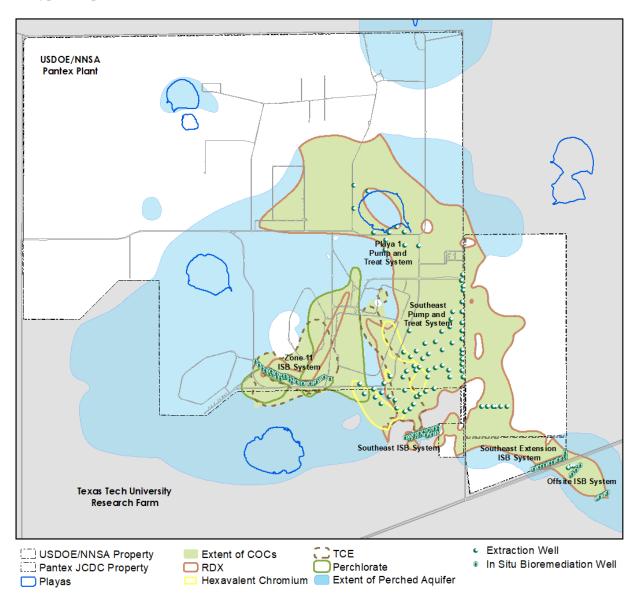


Figure 6.2 – Major Perched Groundwater Plumes and Remediation Systems

### 6.3 THE SCOPE OF THE GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM

Groundwater is monitored at Pantex Plant in accordance with requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) HW-50284 (TCEQa). Pantex Plant is also subject to requirements in the Interagency Agreement (IAG), signed jointly by the EPA and TCEQ, and issued effective in 2008. The *LTM System Design Report* and a new *SAP*, approved by the EPA and TCEQ in July 2009, identified the final monitoring well network and the parameters to be monitored.

An update to the *LTM System Design Report* and revised *SAP* were submitted in 2019 and approved by the TCEQ and EPA in early 2020. Table 6.1 summarizes the number of wells sampled in 2020 that were used in the monitoring of the remedial actions and the total number of analytes assessed.

Table 6.1 – Summary of Well Monitoring in 2020

	Drinking W	ater Aquifer	Perched Groundwater	
Well Type	# Wells	# Analytes Assessed	# Wells	# Analytes Assessed
Long-Term Monitoring Well	24	1,440	93	5,362
Other Wells	4	156	3	148
Pump & Treat Extraction Well			68	1,124
ISB Treatment Zone Monitoring Wells			35	1,103
Total	28	1,596	199	7,737

### 6.4 REMEDIAL ACTION EFFECTIVENESS AND PLUME STABILITY

The purpose of the remedial action evaluation is to determine the effectiveness of remedial measures, indicate when remedial action objectives for perched groundwater have been achieved, and validate groundwater modeling results or provide data that can be used to refine modeling. The expected conditions for the remedial action effectiveness wells are that indicators of the reduction in volume, toxicity, and mobility of constituents and will be observed over time as remedial actions continue. These indicators include stable or decreasing concentrations of constituents, or declining water levels in areas where pump and treat remedies have been implemented.

The purpose of plume stability wells is to determine if impacted areas (plumes) of perched groundwater are expanding and affecting uncontaminated perched groundwater and to monitor the changes occurring within the perched groundwater plumes. The expected conditions for the plume stability wells are that, over time, a reduction in the toxicity and mobility of constituents will be observed.

### **6.4.1** Pump and Treat Systems

The two pump and treat systems are designed to remove and treat perched groundwater, provide hydraulic control of plume movement away from Pantex, and reduce saturated thickness in the perched to lessen the potential for impacted perched groundwater to migrate to the drinking water aquifer below. The systems were designed to remove and treat perched groundwater and beneficially use the treated water. The Southeast Pump and Treat System (SEPTS) has the capability to inject the treated water back into the perched aquifer when beneficial use is not possible. Operational priorities for the pump and treat systems emphasizes beneficial use of water. Pantex Plant has focused on beneficial use of the treated water, to the extent possible, since the subsurface irrigation system operation began in May 2005.

The pump and treat systems' operation and throughput were variable in 2020. SEPTS and Playa 1 Pump and Treat System (P1PTS) operations and throughput were impacted in 2nd Quarter 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to an order to cease all non-essential activities, operations of both pump and treat systems were suspended on April 8, 2020. Operation of SEPTS began again on June 24, 2020, while P1PTS was kept offline until the beginning of the 3rd Quarter 2020.

The P1PTS annual average operation was approximately 19 percent, which was heavily affected by the break at the irrigation filter bank that occurred in 2017 and the COVID-19 shutdown. The SEPTS annual

average operation in 2020 was 70 percent with system operation affected by the COVID-19 shutdown and various maintenance requirements. Partial repairs to the filter bank were completed in May 2020, with startup testing occurring afterward. A portion of the system is expected to be operational by the summer of 2021. Currently, Pantex Plant continues to release all WWTF wastewater to Playa 1. The flow to Playa 1 is restricted by permit, so flow from the systems must also be restricted until the irrigation system is operational.

The SEPTS system was operated at a higher capacity using injection, release to Playa 1, and intermittent shutdowns of the P1PTS to allow full treatment at the system. SEPTS operations focus on removing water in high priority locations that help control migration of the plume to the southeast. New extraction wells were drilled east of Farm to Market (FM) 2373 to provide additional control of plume movement and have been operating since July 2019. Water levels are continuing to decline in the areas downgradient of the pump and treat systems, with declines exceeding one foot per year in several wells as depicted in Figure 6.3.

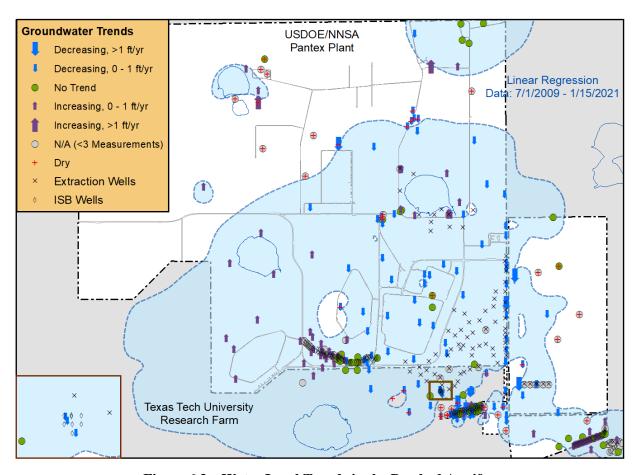


Figure 6.3 – Water Level Trends in the Perched Aquifer

RDX concentration trends since the start of remedial action in July 2009, depicted in Figure 6.4, generally indicate that RDX is decreasing or does not demonstrate a trend at the source areas (Playa 1 and the ditch along the eastern side of Zone 12). The SEPTS has affected the plume as the majority of COC concentrations are declining or not demonstrating a trend along the outer margins of the system. To the southeast, only one (PTX06-1153) of the five wells indicating a long-term increasing trend currently exhibits an increasing trend based on recent data. PTX06-1153 is the only well downgradient of the

Southeast ISB System that is not indicating effective treatment. Pantex Plant continues to evaluate conditions in the area of this well and further recommendations will be made based on evaluation of data over time.

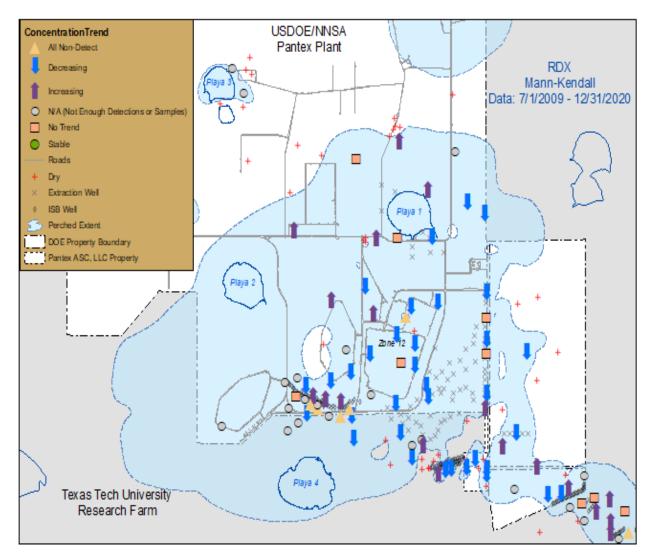


Figure 6.4 – RDX Concentration Trends in the Perched Aquifer

Concentration trends for the remaining major COCs (perchlorate, TCE, and hexavalent chromium) are discussed in the 2020 Annual Progress Report. Figure 6.5 shows plume movement of major COCs in perched groundwater for the time period of 2009 to 2020. Figure 6.6 shows the annual maximum concentrations of the major COCs observed in the perched aquifer since 2009. RDX and hexavalent chromium have demonstrated significant decreases over time, while perchlorate and TCE, do not show significant decreases though are trending downward. This indicates that sources are declining and where the plume is under the influence of a remediation system, the concentrations have dropped significantly.

Areas outside the influence of the remedial action systems are also monitored for high explosives (HEs) and TCE breakdown products to gather data regarding natural attenuation and will be evaluated over time to attempt to estimate the rate of these processes.

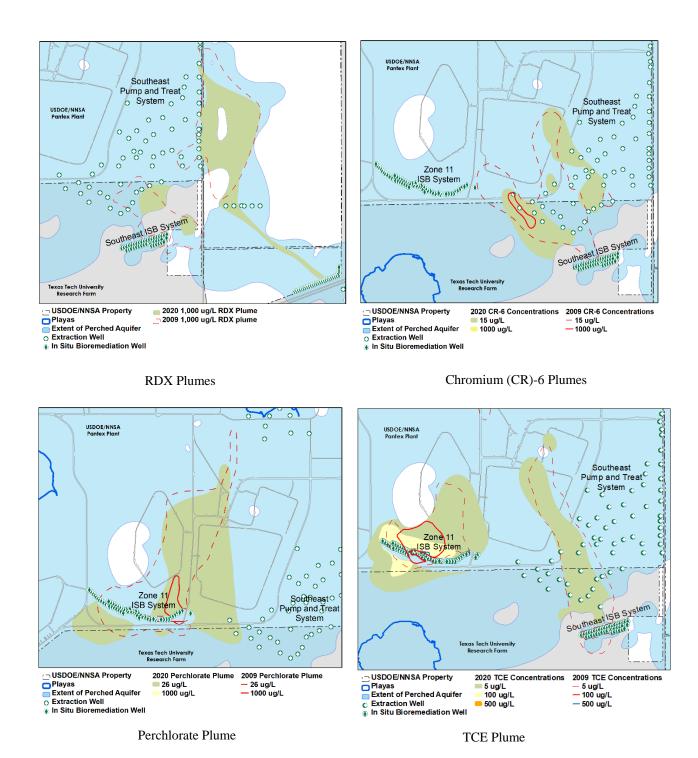


Figure 6.5 – 2009 - 2020 Plume Movement – Perchlorate, Hexavalent Chromium, RDX, and TCE in the Perched Aquifer

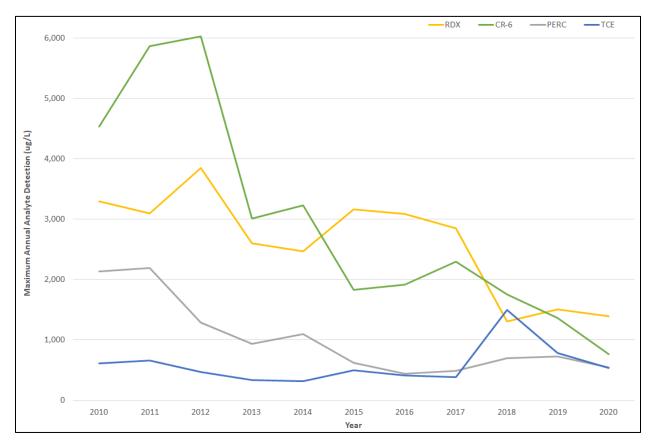


Figure 6.6 – Annual Maximum Concentration Trends in the Perched Aquifer

# 6.4.2 In-Situ Bioremediation Systems

The ISB systems treat the impacted groundwater as it moves through the bioremediation zone with the goal of reducing concentrations below the Groundwater Protection Standard (GWPS) established in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) record of decision. Creation of a bioremediation zone is achieved by injecting amendment and nutrients to stimulate resident bacteria. With complete reduction, the resident bacteria will reduce the COCs to less harmful substances.

Three ISB systems (Zone 11 ISB, Southeast ISB, and Southeast ISB Extension) are installed at Pantex Plant. Overall, the Zone 11 and Southeast ISB have been effective in treating the primary COCs: RDX, hexavalent chromium, TCE, and perchlorate. Pantex Plant continues to evaluate areas of the ISBs where an issue has been identified with treatment and has made adjustment to the treatment as needed based on the results of evaluation. Monitoring of conditions within the treatment zone and downgradient indicate that a reducing zone has been established at all ISB systems. The mild to strong reducing conditions found are expected for each ISB treatment zone. However, stronger reducing conditions may be required for the complete breakdown of TCE at the Zone 11 ISB.

Downgradient monitoring at the Southeast ISB demonstrates that the system has been effective at reducing concentrations of RDX and hexavalent chromium to levels below the GWPS across most of the treatment zone. Pantex Plant will continue to monitor wells in the area to determine groundwater flow patterns, mass flux, and treatment conditions in the western side of the treatment zone where RDX concentrations persist above the GWPS. In addition, water levels in the area of the Southeast ISB are declining as the pump and treat systems continue to remove water causing persistent low water levels or dry conditions across the

system. As a result, future need for injections at the Southeast ISB may be reduced or eliminated after the 2021 injection event.

Evaluation of data collected down-gradient of the Zone 11 ISB treatment zone indicates that a very mild to strong reducing zone has been established and maintained over time with conditions favorable for reduction of perchlorate and reductive dechlorination of TCE. Overall, perchlorate concentrations have been reduced to concentrations below the GWPS, and TCE concentrations continue to trend downward in down-gradient wells.

The Southeast ISB Extension was installed in 2017 as an extension for remediation for the southeast-perched groundwater. Injections for this system began in 2019. Wells sampled within the treatment zone indicate that HEs are treated below the GWPS. Down-gradient wells did not demonstrate treatment during 2020, but are expected to demonstrate treatment by 2022.

### 6.5 UNCERTAINTY MANAGEMENT AND EARLY DETECTION

Because the evaluation of uncertainty management and early detection well types are similar, they are evaluated together for unexpected conditions. The purpose of uncertainty management wells in perched groundwater is to confirm expected conditions identified in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigations and ensure there are not any deviations, fill potential data gaps, and fulfill LTM requirements for soil units evaluated in the baseline risk assessment. The purpose of early detection wells is to identify breakthrough of constituents to the drinking water aquifer from overlying perched groundwater, if present, or from potential source areas in the unsaturated zone, before potential points of exposure have been impacted.

Figure 6.7 depicts the perched and Ogallala aquifer wells used in this evaluation for 2020. Pantex Plant monitors for the most widespread and leachable contaminants at the uncertainty management and early detection wells. The monitoring lists for these wells are included in the *SAP* (PANTEXh) and consist of all HEs found in perched groundwater, degradation products of RDX, Perchloroethylene (PCE), and TCE, as well as chloroform and boron. The data for each well in each aquifer were evaluated for unexpected conditions. Discussions of unexpected conditions are provided in the following sections.

### 6.5.1 Perched Groundwater Uncertainty Management and Unexpected Conditions

In perched groundwater, statistical trend analysis demonstrated source areas are stable or declining as expected in wells monitored for uncertainty management in 2020, with one exception. PTX04-1002 saw a probable increasing trend in RDX that is unrelated to a release from new source contamination. At this time, no action is required because current measured values are below the practical quantitation limit (PQL) for RDX. Other wells down-gradient of source sites show plume movement from previous source areas but no new sources have been detected.

New perched groundwater wells installed outside the previously defined extent of the southeast lobe of the perched aquifer indicates that water and contamination have migrated further to the southeast, beyond the Pantex property boundary. Results indicate the presence of the HEs 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene (DNT) and RDX at concentrations exceeding the PQL and GWPS (up to 8.6 and 1.280  $\mu$ g/L and 1.2 and 2  $\mu$ g/L, respectively). Movement of the plumes in this area appears to be associated with faster groundwater flow paths along channel-type features along the top of the FGZ. After identification of the full extent of the plume, Pantex began installation of a new system to address the offsite contamination. Phase 1 of the new offsite ISB System installation began in April 2020 and drilling was completed in August 2020. Phase 2 well drilling was accelerated and those wells were completed in October 2020. Injection is planned in the

new wells in summer of 2021, after construction of essential infrastructure is finished. Two more phases of installation will continue in 2022 and 2023.

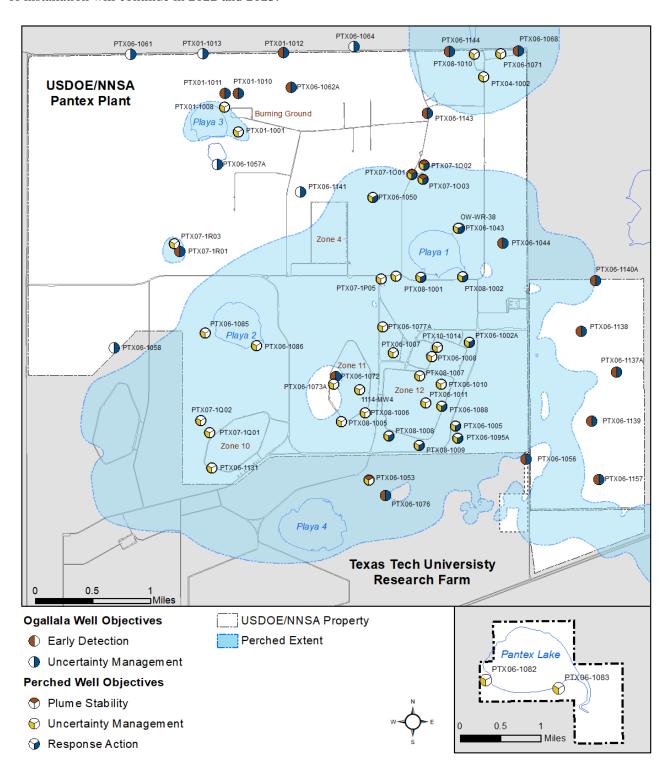


Figure 6.7 – Uncertainty Management and Early Detection Wells

### 6.5.2 Ogallala Aquifer Uncertainty Management and Early Detection

Unexpected conditions in the Ogallala Aquifer primarily involve detections of organic constituents at one well, PTX06-1056. While boron and hexavalent chromium were also detected in Ogallala wells, these detections are related to background fluctuations or corrosion. Other corrosion indicator metals were also detected in Ogallala wells above background. These detections are expected because of the use of stainless steel in Ogallala well construction. No detections exceeded the GWPS in the Ogallala Aquifer uncertainty management wells sampled during 2020.

PTX06-1056 continues to demonstrate detections of 4-amino-2,6-DNT (DNT4A), a breakdown product of the HE 2,4,6-TNT, and 1,2-dichloroethane, as shown in Figure 6.8. DNT4A was first detected in April 2014, and sample results collected since that time have been variable with a few values slightly exceeding the PQL. All values slightly exceeded the PQL in samples collected in 2020. 1,2-Dichloroethane has been variably detected since August 2015 and was detected above the PQL (1.0  $\mu$ g/L) in 2020. All detections were below the GWPS indicating that the water is still protective of human health.

Pantex Plant has proactively evaluated potential sources for the contamination and has plugged a nearby perched well that was drilled deeply into the FGZ to address that potential source. An external independent review indicated that the perched well was the most likely source of the contamination, based on fate and transport modeling. A cement bond log was used to evaluate the competency of the concrete seal at the FGZ and indicated that the seal is competent. Therefore, PTX06-1056 is not likely acting as a preferential pathway for contamination to reach the Ogallala Aquifer. As agreed with regulatory agencies, Pantex Plant will continue to monitor this Ogallala well quarterly to determine if a trend emerges, and will determine if further steps are necessary for the protection of the Ogallala Aquifer. Further actions will be determined based on results of sampling and in accordance with the *Ogallala Aquifer and Perched Groundwater Contingency Plan* (PANTEXi).

#### 6.6 NATURAL ATTENUATION

Natural attenuation is the result of processes that naturally lower concentrations of contaminants over time. This process is monitored at Pantex Plant to help determine where natural attenuation is occurring, under what conditions it is occurring, and to eventually determine rates of attenuation for various constituents.

Pantex Plant routinely monitors for breakdown products of the primary COCs. Groundwater conditions that may affect attenuation, such as dissolved oxygen and redox potential, are also monitored in each well. For example, RDX can degrade under aerobic and anaerobic conditions, but achieves faster reduction under anaerobic conditions. Trending of concentrations is also performed at each well to determine if concentrations are declining as expected.

Based on monitoring results for TNT and its breakdown products (2-amino-4,6-DNT and 4-amino-2,6-DNT), TNT continues to naturally attenuate over time (Figure 6.9). TNT has been manufactured at Pantex Plant since the 1950s yet is only present in the central portion of the overall southeastern plume – within the SEPTS well field and near Playa 1. Its first breakdown product, 2-amino-4,6-DNT, occurs near the TNT plume and extends slightly beyond. The plume for the final breakdown product, 4-amino-2,6-DNT, extends to the eastern edge of the perched saturation at low concentrations. Only TNT breakdown products are present in perched groundwater beneath Zone 11 and north of Playa 1. Concentrations of the breakdown products are still above GWPS, but most wells with detections are recently showing a decreasing or stable trend.

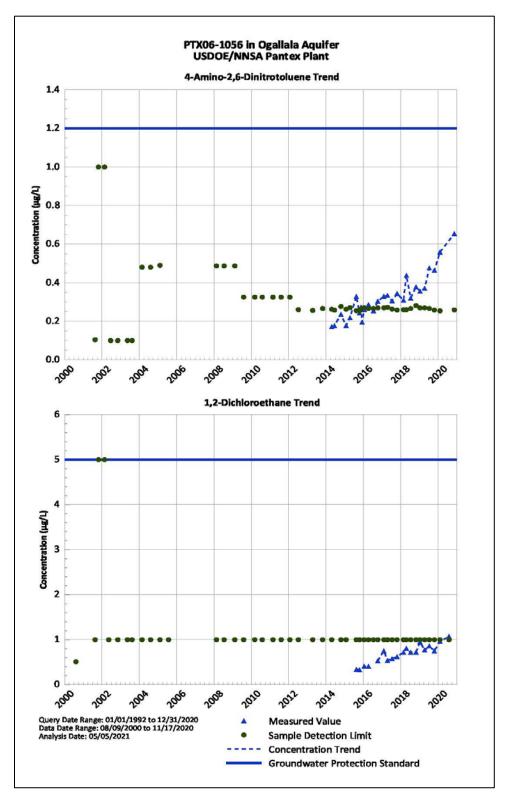


Figure 6.8 – Summary of Unexpected Conditions in Ogallala Aquifer Well PTX06-1056

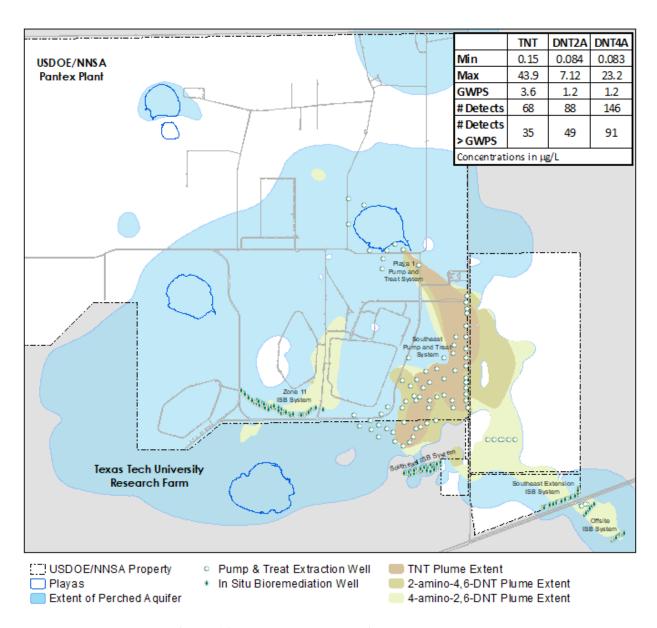


Figure 6.9 – TNT and Degradation Product Plumes

Perched groundwater sampling results for RDX and breakdown products (MNX, DNX, and TNX) indicate that the breakdown products are present throughout most of the RDX plume, with TNX being the most widespread. TNX, the final degradation product, is a better indicator of degradation because the other intermediate products (MNX, DNX) degrade rapidly and do not accumulate in the environment (SERDP, 2004). If complete biodegradation of RDX were occurring, RDX and all breakdown products would be expected to decrease over time. As depicted in Figure 6.10, the TNX plume is similar in size and in extent to the RDX plume, but at much lower concentrations. Pantex Plant contracted for a project to evaluate lines of evidence for natural attenuation of RDX at Pantex Plant. The study included both aerobic and anaerobic degradation with evidence of both occurring. Biodegradation rates of 0.016 to 0.168 / year were calculated translating to RDX half-lives of approximately five to 50 years. The project found that the rates of RDX biodegradation are likely limited by the available labile organic carbon in the groundwater. The predominant attenuation process is aerobic biodegradation by bacterial strains. The study found several

lines of evidence for natural attenuation of RDX as well as the potential to enhance aerobic biodegradation of RDX with introduction of low levels of labile organic carbon. Recommendations for further study were presented for additional treatability studies, bioaugmentation, and additional proteomics analyses for the degrading bacterial strains.

Pantex Plant has monitored for breakdown products of TCE for many years; however, a strong indication of natural attenuation of TCE has not been observed in perched groundwater. TCE has started degrading in the Zone 11 ISB treatment zone. The SEPTS and the ISB treatment zones are actively treating the TCE plumes at Pantex Plant.

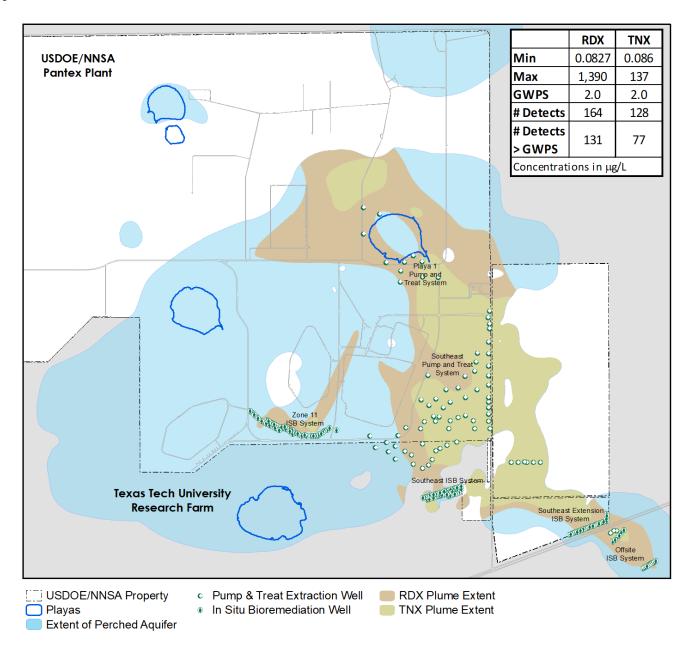


Figure 6.10 - RDX and Degradation Product Plume

#### 6.7 CONCLUSIONS

Overall, the groundwater remedial actions continued to be effective in 2020. The remedial actions continue to operate and meet short-term expectations for cleanup of the perched groundwater in areas under the influence of the remediation systems. As a whole, perched water levels continue to decline. Perched aquifer wells near Playa 1 reported a slight increase in groundwater levels attributable to rainfall, infiltration and release of and treated water from the WWTF and pump and treat systems. COC mass is being removed or reduced and institutional controls provide protection for use of impacted groundwater, while the remedial actions continue to operate to meet long-term goals. The influence of both pump and treat systems will continue to expand as the saturated thickness is reduced in the perched aquifer.

New perched groundwater wells installed outside the previously defined extent of the southeast lobe of the perched aquifer indicate that water and contamination have migrated further to the southeast and to off-site property. With the identification of a preferential pathway and the extent of contamination, Pantex Plant has recommended and started the installation of a system to address the migration of the southeast plume.

One Ogallala Aquifer well had continued COC detections slightly above the laboratory PQL, but below the GWPS, indicating possible migration of perched groundwater to the Ogallala Aquifer. In response to these detections, Pantex Plant has fully implemented the conditions specified in Pantex Plant Ogallala Aquifer and Perched Groundwater Contingency Plan (PANTEXi). Sampling will continue in accordance with the approved SAP (PANTEXh) for HEs and volatile organic compounds at this well. Pantex Plant has proactively evaluated potential sources for the contamination and plugged a nearby well that may have served as a migration pathway for perched groundwater.

Pantex Plant evaluated lines of evidence for natural attenuation of RDX at the Plant. The study included both aerobic and anaerobic degradation with evidence of both occurring. The project found that the rates of RDX biodegradation are likely limited by the available labile organic carbon in the groundwater.

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# **Chapter 7 - Drinking Water**

Pantex Plant's drinking water system (State of Texas Public Water System I.D. No. 0330007) is considered a non-transient, non-community public water system (PWS) under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) created this category to identify private systems that continuously supply water to small groups of people (for example, in schools and factories). The same group of people consumes water supplied by such systems daily over long periods.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- There was a decrease of three million gallons (gal.) produced/pumped from the Ogallala Aquifer compared to 2019.
- Results from the routine drinking water compliance samples collected by Pantex and a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) contractor in 2020 confirmed that the drinking water system at Pantex Plant met all water quality regulatory requirements.
- All analytical results for bacteria, chemical compounds, and disinfection by-products were below regulatory limits, and adequate levels of disinfectant were maintained in the distribution system.
- The Pantex PWS continues to be recognized by the TCEQ as a "Superior" supply system.

#### 7.1 DRINKING WATER AT PANTEX PLANT

Drinking water at Pantex Plant originates from the Ogallala Aquifer. The water is obtained via drinking water production wells. These wells supply all of Pantex Plant's water needs. The water pumped from the Ogallala Aquifer is treated to provide disinfection protection, and is then transferred to a distribution system which distributes water across Pantex Plant. In addition, the system provides water to adjacent Texas Tech University owned property for domestic and livestock use.

Samples from the drinking water system are collected by Pantex Plant personnel and analyzed by contract laboratories monthly for biological contaminants. Similarly, the drinking water system is also sampled and analyzed annually and triennially for various chemical contaminants as required by the SDWA and its implementing regulations (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 141 and 143, and Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 290). Additionally, samples from the drinking water system are collected each year by TCEQ contractor personnel and analyzed for biological and chemical contaminants. Analytical results, from samples collected by both Pantex and the TCEQ contractor, were compared to regulatory guidelines for drinking water. Sampling locations were chosen to meet regulatory requirements and to provide system operators with data that would assist their evaluation of the system's integrity.

## 7.2 NEW REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM CHANGES

There were no new regulatory requirements or changes implemented in 2020.

## 7.3 WATER PRODUCTION AND USE

During 2020, Pantex Plant produced/pumped approximately 112 million gal. of water from the Ogallala Aquifer. This was a decrease of 3 million gal. compared to water produced in 2019.

Pantex Plant remains committed to reducing the amount of produced water by implementing a water reuse and recycling program. Examples of the water conservation and reuse initiatives include the procurement of more efficient industrial cooling equipment (such as water re-circulating systems) and beneficial reuse of treated wastewater. Typically, Pantex Plant beneficially reuses 100 percent of its treated wastewater to grow crops in the northeast portion of the Plant. Pantex Plant environmental compliance personnel continue to investigate other reuse opportunities.

#### 7.4 SAMPLING

Pantex Plant collected routine drinking water samples at 11 locations. Nine locations were sampled for biological indicators and residual disinfectant levels, and two locations were monitored for chemical and water quality constituents. Sample locations are periodically changed to assure there is adequate Plant coverage. The sampling locations are representative of drinking water at Pantex Plant and are listed in Table 7.1.

**Table 7.1 – Drinking Water Sampling Locations, 2020** 

DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Chemical & Water Quality Monitoring	Building 15-27 (entry point to the Distribution System) Building 16-12 (TTHM2 site <sup>21</sup> )
Biological and Disinfectant Level Monitoring	Building 12-103 Building 18-1 Building 12-6 Building 16-12 Building 12-70 Building 11-2 Building 15-27 Building 16-1 Building 10-9

## 7.5 RESULTS

In 2020, the TCEQ contractor also sampled the water system at Pantex Plant. Results for this drinking water sampling were within regulatory limits for chlorine (disinfectant) and below regulatory limits for disinfection byproducts, microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, nitrate, pesticides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Table 7.2 shows the water quality results from the Pantex Plant water system as measured by the TCEQ-contractor.

## 7.5.1 Inorganic Contaminants

Monitoring for inorganic contaminants in the PWS is required under the SDWA and the TAC. The State of Texas regulates the amount of these contaminants in drinking water to protect public health. Consumption of these contaminants may cause health problems if present in public water supplies in amounts greater than the drinking water standard set by the EPA. All inorganic contaminant results from monitoring conducted in 2020 were below regulatory levels.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The TTHM2 site is the location within the distribution system with the potential for high disinfection byproducts (Total Trihalomethanes {TTHM} and Haloacetic Acids {HAA5}) formation. Samples were collected for TTHMs and HAA5s at the entry point to the Distribution System, but these constituents are not regulated at this location. All sample results were below applicable regulatory limits.

# Carbamates, Regulated (Method E531.1)

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	<0.500	4	ug/L
Aldicarb Sulfone	<0.500	2	ug/L
Oxamyl	<1 .00	200	ug/L
Aldicarb	< 0.500	3	ug/L
Carbofuran	<0.500	40	ug/L
Methomyl	<1 .00	N/A	ug/L
3-Hydroxycarboturan	<1 .00	N/A	ug/L
Propoxur	<1.00	N/A	ug/L
Carbaryl (Sevin)	<1 .00	N/A	ug/L
Methiocarb	<1.00	N/A	ug/L

# **Herbicides, Unregulated (Method E515.4)**

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
3,5-Dichlorobenzoic acid	<1.25	N/A	ug/L
Dicamba	<1.25	N/A	ug/L
Dichlorprop	<2.50	N/A	ug/L
Chloramben	<1.25	N/A	ug/L
2,4,5-T	< 0.625	N/A	ug/L
2,4-DB	<2.50	N/A	ug/L
Bentazon	<2.50	N/A	ug/L
Acifluorfen	<1.25	N/A	ug/L

# Herbicides, Regulated (Method E515.4)

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
Dalapon	<1.00	200	ug/L
2,4-D	< 0.100	70	ug/L
Pentachlorophenol	< 0.0400	1	ug/L
2,4,5-TP	< 0.200	50	ug/L
Dinoseb	< 0.200	7	ug/L
Picloram	< 0.100	500	ug/L

# **Monitored, Unregulated (Method E504.1)**

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	< 0.02	N/A	ug/L

# **Monitored, Regulated (Method E504.1)**

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
1,2-Dibromomethane	< 0.01	0.05	ug/L
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane	< 0.02	0.2	ug/L

# **Volatile Organic Compounds, Regulated (Method E524.2)**

Analyte	Measured Value	<b>EPA Limit</b>	Unit of Measure
Vinyl chloride	< 0.500	2	ug/L
1, 1-Dichloroethene	< 0.500	7	ug/L
Methylene chloride	< 0.500	5	ug/L
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	< 0.500	100	ug/L
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	< 0.500	70	ug/L
1, 1, 1-Trichloroethane	< 0.500	200	ug/L
Carbon tetrachloride	< 0.500	5	ug/L
1 ,2-Dichloroethane	< 0.500	5	ug/L
Benzene	< 0.500	5	ug/L
Trichloroethene	< 0.500	5	ug/L
1,2-Dichloropropane	< 0.500	5	ug/L
Toluene	< 0.500	1000	ug/L
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	< 0.500	5	ug/L
Tetrachloroethene	< 0.500	5	ug/L
Chlorobenzene	< 0.500	100	ug/L
Ethyl Benzene	< 0.500	700	ug/L
m,p-Xylene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Styrene	< 0.500	100	ug/L
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.500	75	ug/L
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.500	600	ug/L
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	< 0.500	70	ug/L
Xylene (Total)	<0.500	10000	ug/L

**Volatile Organic Compounds, Unregulated (Method E524.2)** 

volume organic compounds, emeganated (withhou led 112			<u>'=                                    </u>
Analyte	Measured Value	<b>EPA Limit</b>	Unit of Measure
Dichlorodifluoromethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Chloromethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Bromomethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L

**Volatile Organic Compounds, Unregulated (Method E524.2)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	<b>EPA Limit</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>
Chloroethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
4-Chlorotoluene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Trichlorofluoromethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Acetone	<5.00	N/A	ug/L
Carbon disulfide	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Methyl iodide	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Acrylonitrile	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
tert-Butyl methyl ether (MTBE)	<0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,1-Dichloroethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Vinyl acetate	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
2,2-Dichloropropane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
2-Butanone	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Bromochloromethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Tetrahydrofuran	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Chloroform	<1.00	N/A	ug/L
1,1-Dichloropropane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Methyl methacrylate	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Dibromomethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Bromodichloromethane	<1.00	N/A	ug/L
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
4-Methyl-2-pentanone	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Ethyl methacrylate	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,3-Dichloropropane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
2-Hexanone	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Dibromochloromethane	1.02	N/A	ug/L
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
o-Xylene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Bromoform	<1.00	N/A	ug/L
Isopropylbenzene (Cumene)	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Bromobenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
n-Propylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
2-Chlorotoluene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
tert-Butylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L

**Volatile Organic Compounds, Unregulated (Method E524.2)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
4-Isopropyltoluene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
n-Butylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Naphthalene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Hexachlorobutadiene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
1,2,4- Trimethylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L
Sec-Butylbenzene	< 0.500	N/A	ug/L

Alkalinity (Method SM2320B)

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
Phenolpthalein Alkalinity	0.00	N/A	mg/L
Hydroxide Alkalinity	0.00	N/A	mg/L
Bicarbonate Alkalinity	220	N/A	mg/L
Carbonate Alkalinity	0.00	N/A	mg/L
Total Alkalinity (CaCO3)	220	N/A	mg/L

**Specific conductance (Method SM2510B)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	<b>EPA Limit</b>	Unit of Measure
Conductance	506	N/A	umho/cm

**Inorganics (Method E300.0)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure
Chloride	13.7	N/A	mg/L
Fluoride	1.54	4	mg/L
Nitrate (as N)	1.35	10	mg/L
Sulfate	21.1	N/A	mg/L

**Total Dissolved Solids (Method SM2540C)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure	
TDS	317	N/A	mg/L	

**Total Cyanide (Method E335.4)** 

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure	
Cyanide	< 0.0200	0.2	mg/L	

# Nitrite (Method E300.0)

Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	Unit of Measure	
Nitrite (as N)	< 0.0100	1	mg/L	

# **Disinfection By-Products: Haloacetic Acids (Method 552.2)**

Analyte	Measured Value	<b>EPA Limit</b>	Unit of Measure	
Bromochloroacetic acid	2.00	N/A	ug/L	
Dibromoacetic acid	1.00	N/A	ug/L	
Dichloroacetic acid	2.00	N/A	ug/L	
Monobromoacetic acid	1.00	N/A	ug/L	
Monochloroacetic acid	1.00	N/A	ug/L	
Total Regulated HAA	6.00	60	ug/L	
Trichloroacetic acid	1.00	N/A	ug/L	

# **Disinfection By-Products: Trihalomethanes (Method E524.2)**

			<del></del>
Analyte	Measured Value	EPA Limit	<b>Unit of Measure</b>
Chloroform	5.21	N/A	ug/L
Bromodichloromethane	5.91	N/A	ug/L
Dibromochloromethane	5.76	N/A	ug/L
Bromoform	2.62	N/A	ug/L
Total Trihalomethanes	19.5	80	ug/L

#### Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

mg/L = milligrams per liter or parts per million

N/A = Not applicable; there are no Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

ug/L = micrograms per liter or parts per billion

umho/cm = microsiemens per centimeter; this is a measurement of electrical conductivity in water.

# 7.5.2 Biological Monitoring

Water distribution systems may contain naturally occurring microorganisms and other organic matter that could enter a system through leaks, cross-connections, back-flow events, or disinfection system failures. Bacterial growth may occur within the water itself, at or near the pipe surfaces, or from suspended particulates. Factors that influence bacterial growth include water temperature, flow rate, and chlorination. During 2020, all microbial sample results were negative for coliform and Escherichia coli bacteria.

# 7.5.3 Radiological Monitoring

Radiological monitoring is not required for the non-transient, non-community PWS at Pantex Plant. During 2020, no radiological monitoring was conducted.

# 7.5.4 Disinfection By-Products

All drinking water at Pantex Plant is chlorinated prior to entry into the distribution system. Disinfection By-products (DBPs) are produced by the reaction between the disinfectant (chlorine) and organic matter in the water. Reducing the amount of organic matter in the source water before disinfection can help control the quantity of DBPs produced. In addition, limiting the amount of disinfectant introduced in the system reduces the formation of these byproducts. All PWSs where chlorine is used are required to maintain residual levels between 0.2 and 4.0 milligrams chlorine per liter (mg/L) throughout the distribution system. These levels provide assurance that the water is safe from most water-borne pathogens while minimizing any adverse health risks to the population from DBPs or the higher concentrations of chlorine.

DBPs are broken into two groups: total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA5). TTHMs are reported as the sum of the chloroform, dibromochloromethane, bromo-dichloromethane, and bromoform concentrations in milligrams per liter. Haloacetic acids are reported as the sum of the monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, and dibromoacetic acid concentrations in milligrams per liter. All tests for DBPs were at or below SDWA maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

# 7.5.5 Water Quality Parameters

Water quality parameter testing was conducted in 2020. Testing included constituents such as metals. Typically, detection of these constituents does not indicate that the water is unsafe to drink; rather they may have considerations of the water such as color, odor, and taste.

# 7.5.6 Synthetic Organic Contaminants

Synthetic organic chemicals (SOCs) are products derived from naturally occurring materials (petroleum, natural gas, and coal), which have undergone at least one chemical reaction, such as oxidation, hydrogenation, or other process. The TCEQ did not monitor the water system for SOCs during 2020.

#### 7.5.7 Volatile Organic Contaminants

VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short and long-term adverse health effects. VOCs are released by a wide array of products, numbering in the thousands. Organic chemicals are widely used as ingredients in household products such as fuels, paints, varnishes, waxes containing organic solvents, and many cleaning, disinfecting, cosmetic, degreasing, and hobby products. All of these products can release organic compounds while being used, and to some degree, while they are stored. Due to the vast number of products on the market that contain VOCs, it is possible that some of these constituents will find their way into drinking water supplies. The TCEQ did monitor the water system for VOCs during 2020. All sample results were below any regulatory limits established in federal or state regulations, and within the ranges observed in previous years.

# 7.5.8 Lead and Copper Monitoring

The Lead and Copper Rule under the SDWA requires that concentrations of lead and copper remain below action levels (0.015 and 1.3 mg/L, respectively) for the 90th percentile of the sampling locations. These regulations establish requirements for monitoring, reporting, corrosion control studies and treatment, source water treatment, lead service line replacement, and public education. PWSs must control the levels of lead and copper in drinking water by controlling the corrosivity of the water. Pantex Plant is on a triennial monitoring schedule for lead and copper. Compliance monitoring for lead and copper was conducted during 2018 and is scheduled for sampling in 2021.

# 7.5.9 Contaminant Candidate Monitoring

The drinking water Contaminant Candidate List (CCL) is a list of contaminants that are currently not subject to national primary drinking water regulations, but are known or anticipated to occur in PWSs. Contaminants listed on the CCL may require future regulation under the SDWA. The EPA is required to publish the CCL every five years. The SDWA directs the EPA to consider the health effects and occurrence information for unregulated contaminants as the agency makes decisions to place contaminants on the list. The SDWA further specifies that the EPA place those contaminants on the list that present the greatest public health concern related to exposure from drinking water. The EPA uses the CCL to identify priority contaminants for regulatory decision making and information collection. The TCEQ did not monitor for select contaminants on the CCL during 2020.

## 7.6 INSPECTIONS

The TCEQ monitors the water supply in accordance with the drinking water standards. In August 2020, a TCEQ contractor collected samples from Pantex Plant PWS system. The report generated from that event indicated that Pantex Plant met or exceeded all requirements for operating a PWS. The TCEQ did not perform a Comprehensive Compliance Inspection of the Pantex Plant Drinking Water system in 2020.

#### 7.7 CONCLUSIONS

All sample results were below applicable regulatory limits under the SDWA. Monitoring results demonstrate that Pantex Plant continues to provide safe drinking water while the water supply system maintains a "Superior Rating."

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# **Chapter 8 - Wastewater**

Pantex Plant operates an on-site wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). The wastewater treatment system consists of a facultative lagoon and two wastewater storage lagoons. This facility is permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to treat and dispose of domestic and industrial wastewater.

# **Chapter Highlights**

• During 2020, Pantex Plant discharged approximately 124 million gallons (gal.) of treated wastewater to the on-site playa lake.

#### 8.1 WASTEWATER AT PANTEX PLANT

Domestic and industrial wastewaters generated at Pantex Plant are treated at an on-site WWTF. Industrial effluents from Pantex Plant operations are generally pre-treated and directed into the WWTF for further treatment. All such effluents are collected in the sanitary sewer, managed in the WWTF, and can be discharged through permitted outfalls to either an underground irrigation system or an on-site playa lake. The playa is an ephemeral lake and is not connected to any other lakes, rivers, or streams (Figure 8.1).



Figure 8.1 – Playa 1

The WWTF (Figure 8.2) is a clay-lined, facultative lagoon that covers approximately 3.94 acres (ac) and has a capacity of 11 million gal. In addition to the WWTF, there are two storage lagoons (Figure 8.3 and 8.4) that are utilized for the storage and retention of treated wastewater. The east lagoon (Figure 8.3) is a storage lagoon that is lined with a polyethylene liner and has similar dimensions and capacity to the facultative lagoon. This lagoon receives treated domestic and industrial wastewater, as well as treated

groundwater from environmental remediation projects. If necessary, the east lagoon can serve as a facultative lagoon.

The treatment process in the facultative lagoon involves a combination of aerobic, anaerobic, and facultative bacteria. At the surface, aerobic bacteria and algae exist in a symbiotic relationship. Oxygen is provided by natural aeration processes, algal photosynthesis, and by solar-powered mechanical aerators. Bacteria utilize the oxygen for the aerobic degradation of organic matter, while algae utilize the nutrients and carbon dioxide released in the degradation process. Facultative bacteria within the water column are used in the treatment and degradation of organic matter. Anaerobic bacteria decompose organic matter that is deposited in a sludge layer at the bottom of the lagoon. The wastewater treatment process in a facultative lagoon is complex and nearly all treatment is accomplished by biological activity.



Figure 8.2 – Wastewater Treatment Facility, Facultative Lagoon

## 8.2 OPERATIONAL DESCRIPTION AND METRICS

During 2020, Pantex Plant had three authorizations from TCEQ for wastewater disposal. Each required analytical monitoring and periodic reporting to the TCEQ.

Under the Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP), WQ0004397000, Pantex Plant is permitted to dispose of treated wastewater by means of a subsurface irrigation system into agricultural fields for beneficial reuse (Figure 8.5). This permit was modified and reissued on August 11, 2020, and will expire on August 11, 2030. When discharging to the subsurface irrigation system, water is distributed through manifold pipes to individual zones located within four tracts of land that are each approximately 100 acres (ac) in size.

The irrigation areas consist of agricultural land owned by the Department of Energy and farmed by Texas Tech University (TTU). Crops grown in this area may include winter wheat, sorghum, soybeans, cotton, corn, oats, and opportunity wheat. Crops will vary from field to field, depending on the cropping needs of TTU. The subsurface irrigation system was not utilized during 2020 due to ongoing repairs. However, all four tracts were planted as dry land crops with winter wheat, sorghum, and triticale.



Figure 8.3 – East Wastewater Storage Lagoon



Figure 8.4 – Wastewater Storage Lagoon



Figure 8.5 – Irrigation Tract 101

During periods when the agricultural fields are fallow, Pantex Plant is authorized to apply limited quantities of wastewater to the irrigation area under Underground Injection Control (UIC) Authorization 5W2000017. There is no expiration date on this authorization.

Finally, Pantex Plant maintains a Texas Water Quality Permit (TWQP), WQ0002296000, which allows for the discharge of treated wastewater to Playa 1, an on-site playa. This permit was renewed by the TCEQ on August 27, 2020, and will expire on August 27, 2025. Through compliance with these three authorizations, Pantex Plant manages and discharges treated effluent in a manner that is beneficial to the environment.

#### 8.3 SAMPLING LOCATIONS

Sampling was conducted at the incoming weir of the lagoon system (before treatment) and at the permitted discharge point for surface water discharge, Outfall 001A. Monitoring the water quality at the incoming weir was done to determine the effectiveness of the wastewater treatment system. Results of these efforts showed that the treatment system adequately treated the wastewater to comply with all effluent limitations.

# 8.4 ANALYTICAL RESULTS

During 2020, Pantex Plant discharged approximately 124 million gal. of treated wastewater through Outfall 001A. Water quality results through this outfall are shown in Table 8.1.

Table 8.1 - Water Quality Results from Outfall 001A, 2020

Analyte	Maximum Discharge Limits <sup>a</sup> (mg/L)	Minimum Detected Concentration (mg/L)	Maximum Detected Concentration (mg/L)	Permit Exceedance/ Violation <sup>b</sup>	Percent Compliance
Copper	1.0	0.003	0.009	0/0	100
Manganese	2.0	0.005	0.047	0/0	100
Zinc	2.0	0.003	0.012	0/0	100
HMX	Report	0.0001	0.0003	0/0	100
RDX	Report	0.0003	0.0003	0/0	100
PETN	Report	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	0/0	100
TNT	Report	< 0.0003	< 0.0003	0/0	100
TATB	Report	< 0.001	< 0.001	0/0	100
BOD	70	1.5	21	0/0	100
COD	150	20	165	1/0	95
TSS	90	1.5	34	0/0	100
Oil/Grease	15	2.7	4.4	0/0	100
pH <sup>c</sup>	6.0 Min. 10.0 Max.	7.2	9.2	0/0	100

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The maximum discharge limits are based on the daily maximum levels stated in the permit.

#### 8.5 PERMIT VIOLATIONS

During 2020, Pantex Plant had two unauthorized discharges of untreated wastewater from the sanitary sewer system. An unauthorized discharge is defined as either a discharge of untreated wastewater prior to treatment or a discharge to the environment at any location other than through a permitted outfall. In both instances, actions were taken to remediate the areas of concern and notifications were submitted to TCEO.

#### 8.6 CONCLUSIONS

At Outfall 001A, the 2020 results for explosives, metals, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), and oil/grease were all within accepted ranges and did not exceed permit limits. However, an exceedance of chemical oxygen demand (COD) did occur during the month of January. The reason for the exceedance is unknown and was inconsistent with a duplicate sample that was also collected at the same location. The COD measured in the duplicate sample, 75 mg/l, was well below the permit limit. Excluding the COD sample discussed above, all other values were consistent with the previous year's data and within permit limits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> An exceedance is defined as a measured value above or below a permit limit. A violation is defined as a missing permit parameter such as failure to obtain a sample required by the permit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> pH is measured in standard units and not in mg/L.

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# **Chapter 9 - Surface Water**

To ensure outdoor operations at Pantex Plant are not adversely affecting the environment, the Plant actively monitors the storm water runoff from each industrial area and the surface water quality of each on-site playa lake.

#### **CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS**

- Data from the surface water program collected during 2020 was consistent with historical data from past monitoring activities, indicating that operations at Pantex Plant did not adversely affect the environment.
- No significant changes were made to the surface water sampling program during calendar year 2020.

#### 9.1 SURFACE WATER AT PANTEX PLANT

Pantex Plant is located in a region with a semi-arid climate and a relatively flat topography. Surface water represented by rivers or streams does not exist around the site. All surface water drains to isolated playa lakes. Playa lakes are shallow, ephemeral lakes that have clay lined basins that fill periodically with surface water runoff. Playa basins consist of the ephemeral lakes themselves and their surrounding watersheds. There are approximately 20,000 of these playas on the Southern High Plains. Playa lakes are extremely important hydrologic features that provide prime habitat for wildlife, especially waterfowl that winter in the Southern High Plains. Playas are also believed by most authorities to be an important source of recharge for the Ogallala Aquifer, the area's primary source of groundwater.

There are six playas located on Department of Energy (DOE) owned or leased property. Two are located on property leased from Texas Tech University (TTU). Most surface drainage on DOE property flows via man-made ditches, via natural drainage channels, or by sheet-flow to the on-site playa basins. Some storm water flows to off-site playas at the outer periphery of the site which are mostly a considerable distance from most Pantex Plant operations. Figure 9.1 is a map of Pantex Plant that shows the locations of the six playas with their respective drainage basins (watersheds).

Effluent from the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and storm water runoff from Zones 4, 12, and the northeastern portion of Zone 11 are permitted to discharge to Playa 1. Storm water runoff from the northwestern portions of Zone 11 is channeled to Playa 2 via a ditch system. Storm water runoff from the Burning Ground flows, primarily as sheet-flow, into Playa 3. Storm water runoff from the southern portions of Zones 10, 11, and 12 discharge into Playa 4 on TTU property. There are no discharges from Pantex Plant to Pantex Lake or Playa 5. Pantex Lake is located on DOE property to the northeast of the main property, and Playa 5 is located on TTU property to the southwest. Both of these playas receive storm water runoff from surrounding pastures and agricultural operations.

## 9.2 SAMPLING LOCATIONS AND MONITORING RESULTS

Surface water sampling occurs in response to precipitation or discharge events. During 2020, sampling was conducted in accordance with permits issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Data Quality Objective documents developed by Pantex Plant media scientists. The TCEQ is the permitting authority for storm water discharges in the state of Texas.

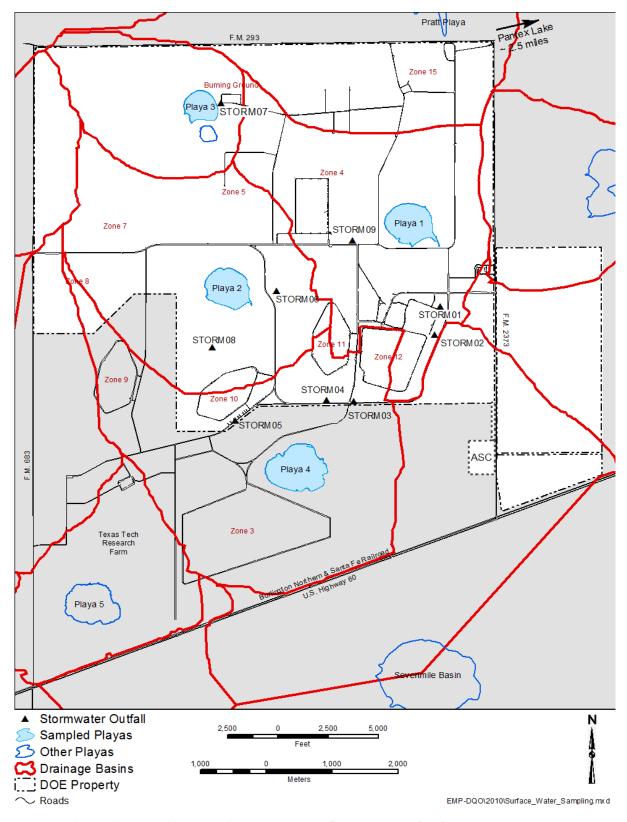


Figure 9.1 – Drainage Basins, Playas, and Storm Water Outfalls at Pantex Plant

Storm water runoff at Pantex Plant is sampled in accordance with Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) TXR050000 for storm water. During 2020, Pantex Plant performed sampling in compliance with the MSGP that Pantex Plant filed for on November 7, 2016. General permits are typically active for five years with the most recent MSGP expiring in August 2021. Storm water sampling locations, known as outfalls, are conveyances in which storm water accumulates and discharges. Locations have been selected based on their proximity to operational areas of Pantex Plant.

The TCEQ has also issued a five-year general permit, TPDES General Permit No. TXR150000, relating to storm water discharges associated with construction activities. The most recent general permit expires in March 2023. There were five construction projects filed under this general permit at the end of 2020 for the Pantex Plant. These permits do not require analytical monitoring, but rely on best management practices, such as storm water pollution prevention plans, erosion controls, soil stabilization controls, and routine field inspections.

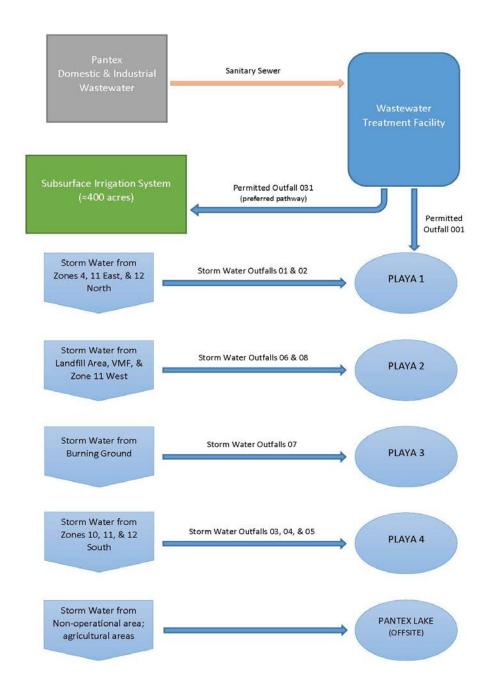
Environmental surveillance monitoring is also conducted at the on-site playas as a best management practice. Appendix C contains a list of the surface water analytes that were monitored during 2020. In addition to playa lake sampling program, Pantex Plant also monitors storm water quality at eight different outfalls (shown on Figure 9.1). The flow diagram in Figure 9.2 depicts how storm water and treated industrial effluents discharge through the outfalls, and ultimately to the playas or the subsurface drip irrigation system.

During 2020, sampling was conducted at eight storm water outfalls and one playa. Based on data from the National Weather Service – Amarillo, located northeast of Amarillo and southwest of Pantex Plant, rainfall during 2020 was below average with approximately 12.6 inches (in) for the year. The average annual rainfall for Amarillo is typically 19.7 in.

Storm water monitoring required by the TPDES MSGP in 2020 consisted of both visual monitoring and analytical monitoring. Both are required each year for the duration of the MSGP. Visual monitoring involves the examination of the physical properties of storm water including color, clarity, odor, oil sheen, solids, and foam. Visual samples taken and examined in 2020 appeared to be of good quality, and none showed any abnormalities based on the criteria specified in the MSGP. Analytical monitoring consisted of metals (Inland Water Quality Parameters [IWQPs]) listed in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 319 and sector-specific analytes required by the MSGP. Metal concentrations were compared with IWQPs, and sector-specific analytes were compared to benchmark levels listed in the MSGP. Table 9.1 lists the results for metals from the storm water outfalls in 2020 and compares them with the IWQPs.

# **9.2.1** Playa 1 Basin

Playa 1 is approximately 79.3 acres (ac) in size and may receive treated wastewater effluent and storm water runoff from several small drainages. One of the drainages to the playa is associated with Pantex Plant operations (permitted Industrial Wastewater Outfall 001). The other drainages receive only storm water runoff from agricultural and operational areas. There are three drainages along the southern perimeter of Playa 1. All three include storm water from both agricultural and operational areas. Storm Water Outfalls 01 and 02 are located upstream in one of these drainages, which originates from some of the operational areas of Zone 12 North. The western edge of Playa 1 receives storm water runoff from the Zone 4 area.



**Figure 9.2 – Pantex Plant Surface Water Schematic** 

Table 9.1 – Annual Storm Water Results (metals), 2020 (mg/L)

	Outfall STORM01	Outfall STORM02	Outfall STORM03	Outfall STORM04	Outfall STORM05	Outfall STORM06	Outfall STORM07	Outfall STORM08	IWQPa
Arsenic	<0.010	<0.010	0.006	<0.010	<0.010	0.006	<0.010	0.009	0.3
Barium	0.200	0.079	0.370	0.071	0.081	0.370	0.066	0.340	4.0
Cadmium	0.0002	< 0.0005	0.0003	<0.0005	<0.0005	0.001	<0.0005	0.0003	0.2
Chromium	0.013	< 0.010	0.017	<0.010	<0.010	0.014	<0.010	0.027	5.0
Copper	0.020	0.004	0.013	0.007	0.005	0.022	0.004	0.020	2.0
Lead	0.009	0.001	0.009	0.002	< 0.003	0.010	<0.003	0.014	1.5
Manganese	0.180	0.033	0.240	0.056	0.013	0.370	0.017	0.360	3.0
Mercury	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	0.01
Nickel	0.010	0.002	0.014	0.004	0.002	0.017	< 0.005	0.023	3.0
Selenium	<0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	0.2
Silver	<0.002	< 0.002	< 0.002	< 0.002	< 0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	0.2
Zinc	0.160	0.024	0.130	0.016	0.014	0.180	<0.020	0.079	6.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> IWQP = Inland Water Quality Parameter limits, 30 TAC 319.22

Note: The values above are the average concentration from all samples, if more than one sample was collected during the year.

Two additional drainages transport storm water runoff from agricultural areas that are north of the playa. In 2020, monitoring was conducted at Playa 1 and within the Playa 1 basin at both Storm Water Outfalls 01 and 02.

During the third quarter of 2020, Playa 1 was sampled for metals, radionuclides, and explosives. Metal analyses were consistent with historic levels found at the playa and all were below their respective IWQP. Isotopic radiological analyses for uranium were all below their respective Derived Concentration Standard (DCS) for ingested water. Tritium was also below the DCS for ingested water, as well as the more

conservative Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for drinking water standards. All explosive analyses were below laboratory detection limits.

#### 9.2.1.1 Storm Water Outfall 01 – Zone 12 North at BN5A

BN5A is the designation for the parking lot located north of operational areas, south of Playa 1, and west of agricultural areas. Flow through this outfall consists entirely of storm water that originates in the operational areas of Zone 12 North. The storm water flows northward from the outfall through the BN5A ditch, and on northward to Playa 1 where it finally discharges.

MSGP required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 01 was conducted during the first, second, and third quarters of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria described in the MSGP and pH was normal (6.0 - 9.0 s.u.). All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

#### 9.2.1.2 Storm Water Outfall 02 – Zone 12 East at South 15th Street

Storm water discharges that flow through Storm Water Outfall 02 originate from the eastern portions of Zone 12 South, which include some of the operational areas of Pantex Plant.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 02 was conducted during the third quarter of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria described in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

# 9.2.2 Playa 2 Basin

Playa 2 is approximately 74 ac and receives only storm water runoff. Playa 2 receives runoff from the northwest side of Zone 11, the north side of Zone 10, and an area of agricultural fields that includes both pasture and cultivated land. Two storm water outfalls, Outfalls 06 and 08, are within the Playa 2 basin. During 2020, monitoring was conducted at both Storm Water Outfalls 06 and 08, but due to below average rainfall, monitoring was not conducted at Playa 2 during 2020.

#### 9.2.2.1 Storm Water Outfall 06 – Vehicle Maintenance Facility

Storm Water Outfall 06 receives storm water runoff from an area that includes the Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF) and portions of the parking lot around the VMF where vehicles awaiting maintenance are staged. The refueling stations for Pantex Plant fleet are also located in this drainage area. The drainage area is primarily a paved lot utilized for parking and staging vehicles on the south side of the VMF.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 06 was conducted during the first, second, and third quarters of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH testing, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHs) analysis, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria contained in the MSGP and pH was normal. TPH results were below laboratory detection limits for all three quarters, indicating that runoff from the VMF staging area and refueling operations is not contributing significant hydrocarbon pollutants to the environment. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

## 9.2.2.2 Storm Water Outfall 08 - Landfill

This outfall receives storm water runoff from an area within Pantex Plant's active landfill. Runoff from active open landfill cells is retained within each cell. Storm water at this outfall consists of runoff over the

landfill area, including runoff over closed cells. Storm water from this area eventually makes its way northward to Playa 2.

Permit required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 08 was conducted during the first, second, and third quarters of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria described in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020. Sector specific monitoring is required at this location and includes total suspended solids (TSS) and iron. TSS concentrations averaged 321 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for the year, which is above the benchmark level of 100 mg/L. Iron concentrations averaged 13.1 mg/L for the year, which is also above the benchmark level of 1.3 mg/L. Both of these analytes have been above benchmark levels historically and are consistent with past results. These results are not indicative of a contaminant problem, but reflect the characteristics of storm water from this area and the persistent drought conditions that occurred during the year. Specific projects are planned for 2021 to reduce these levels.

# 9.2.3 Playa 3 Basin

Playa 3, the smallest playa at Pantex Plant, is approximately 54 ac and receives storm water runoff from pastureland, cultivated fields, and portions of the Burning Ground. No well defined ditches feed into the playa and runoff occurs primarily as sheet flow. Storm Water Outfall 07 is located within the basin and is northeast of Playa 3 between the playa and the Pantex Plant Burning Ground. During 2020, monitoring was conducted within the Playa 3 basin at Storm Water Outfall 07. However, due to below average rainfall, monitoring was not conducted at Playa 3 during 2020.

## 9.2.3.1 Storm Water Outfall 07 – Burning Ground

Storm Water Outfall 07 receives storm water runoff from the Burning Ground operational area through a culvert under a circumferential road around the Burning Ground, a relatively small land area. For this reason, sampling at the outfall can be a challenge.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 07 was conducted during the second and third quarters of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria described in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

# **9.2.4** Playa 4 Basin

Playa 4 is approximately 112.5 ac and is located on property owned by TTU. This playa receives runoff primarily from pasture areas but does receive storm water runoff from portions of Zone 10 (through Storm Water Outfall 05), Zone 11 (through Storm Water Outfall 04), and Zone 12 South (through Storm Water Outfall 03). Discharges from Zone 12 are predominately storm water runoff; however, Fire Department personnel flush firewater storage tanks or test fire hydrants in sufficient volumes to reach Storm Water Outfall 03. During 2020, monitoring was conducted within the Playa 4 basin at Storm Water Outfalls 03, 04, and 05 and due to below average rainfall, monitoring was not conducted at Playa 4 during 2020.

# 9.2.4.1 Storm Water Outfall 03 - Zone 12 South

Surface water monitored at Storm Water Outfall 03 is primarily storm water runoff from the west half of Zone 12 South. Periodically, water from the fire protection system is discharged through this outfall during routine maintenance activities. There are no industrial effluents discharged through this outfall.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 03 was conducted during the second and third quarters of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria contained in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

#### 9.2.4.2 Storm Water Outfall 04 – Zone 11 South

Surface water monitored at Storm Water Outfall 04 is entirely storm water runoff from the southern half of Zone 11. Storm water from this area discharges southward through the outfall to Playa 4. There are no industrial effluents discharged through this outfall.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 04 was conducted during the second quarter of 2020. Activities included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria described in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

#### 9.2.4.3 Storm Water Outfall 05 – Zone 10 South

Surface water monitored at Storm Water Outfall 05 is entirely storm water runoff from the southern half of Zone 10. This area also includes several contractor laydown yards. Some of the laydown yards contain material staging areas, waste bins utilized primarily for scrap metal, and double-walled aboveground storage tanks utilized for equipment refueling. Drainage in this vicinity is very flat and there are no industrial effluents discharged through this outfall.

Permit-required monitoring at Storm Water Outfall 05 was conducted during the first and third quarters of 2020. Monitoring included visual monitoring, pH evaluation, and metal analyses. Visual examinations showed no abnormalities based on the visual criteria contained in the MSGP and pH was normal. All metal concentrations were below their respective IWQP in 2020.

## 9.2.5 Pantex Lake

Pantex Lake is the largest playa controlled by the DOE and is approximately 337 ac in size. The playa is located approximately 2.5 miles to the northeast from the main Pantex Plant site. Playa monitoring at Pantex Lake was discontinued in 2003, as it does not receive any runoff or discharges from Pantex Plant.

#### 9.3 HISTORICAL COMPARISONS

Sampling results from the storm water outfalls during 2020 showed no significant changes from the results of previous years. All monitoring results for metals were below their respective IWQP established by the State of Texas. Sample results continue to indicate that the storm water discharges at Pantex Plant are of relatively good quality and that current operations at Pantex Plant are not degrading storm water quality.

The playa lake sample results obtained during 2020 were very similar with past monitoring results. This playa data continues to support the premise that operations at Pantex Plant are not negatively affecting the water quality of the playas.

# 9.4 CONCLUSIONS

Monitoring storm water runoff at Pantex Plant is performed as required by the TCEQ's general permits. The playa lakes at Pantex Plant are monitored as a best management practice, but monitoring is often limited due to the semi-arid climate of the Texas Panhandle. Based on the data collected in 2020, surface water monitoring continues to document that concentration of metals in storm and surface waters at Pantex Plant are well below inland water quality parameter limits and radionuclide concentrations are well below EPA and DOE limits for drinking water.

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# **Chapter 10 - Soils**

In accordance with Pantex Plant Hazardous Waste Permit and Pantex Plant Texas Land Application Permit, surface and subsurface soil samples are collected and analyzed for various parameters.

# **Chapter Highlights**

- Results of soil monitoring conducted at the subsurface irrigation site were consistent with historical and the previous year's results.
- On-site Burning Ground surface soil monitoring results were within the concentration ranges of the established background levels.

#### 10.1 SOIL SAMPLING AT PANTEX PLANT

Surface soil samples are collected at the Pantex Plant Burning Ground and analyzed for metals and explosives in accordance with Provision VI.C of Pantex Plant's Hazardous Waste Permit HW-50284 (Permit HW-50284) (TCEQa). Subsurface soil samples are also collected from four subsurface irrigation tracts and analyzed for various parameters in accordance with Provision V.O of Pantex Plant Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) WQ0004397000 (TCEQb). All samples are analyzed by off-site contract laboratories that meet Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements as discussed in Chapter 13, Quality Assurance. Specific analytes are listed in Appendix C.

## 10.2 BURNING GROUND SURFACE SOIL SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

In 2020, surface soil samples were collected from two general landscape positions: playa bottoms and interplaya uplands. The characteristic soil types for these landscape positions are Randall clay in playas, and Pullman clay loam in the uplands. Soil was sampled at five on-site locations, representing three upland and two playa sampling areas associated with the Burning Ground. Samples from each associated grid area (Figure 10.1) were collected from a depth of 0 to 2 inches (in), and combined to form individual composite samples.

# 10.2.1 Surface Soil Data Comparisons

Background comparison levels were determined by obtaining samples during three consecutive calendar quarters in 2006 for each monitoring parameter required by Permit HW-50284. If all analytical results of the background samples for a particular constituent at any location were less than the Method Detection Limit (MDL) identified in Permit HW-50284, the background value was set at the MDL or the Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL), whichever was greater. If less than 50 percent of the analytical results of the background samples for a particular constituent at any location were greater than the MDL, the background value was set at the highest detected value, the MDL, or the PQL, whichever was greater. If the analytical results of more than 50 percent of the background samples for a particular constituent at any location were greater than the MDL, the background value was calculated using a 95 percent upper tolerance limit with 99.9 percent coverage.

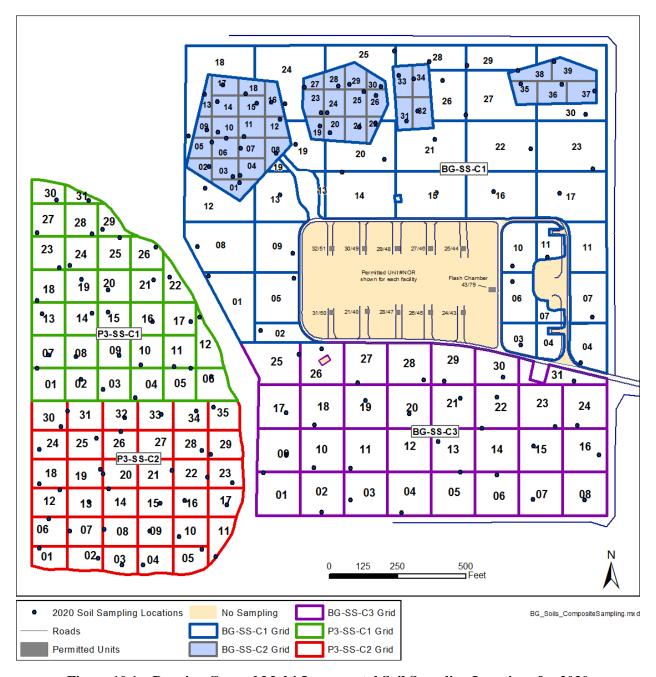


Figure 10.1 – Burning Ground Multi-Incremental Soil Sampling Locations for 2020

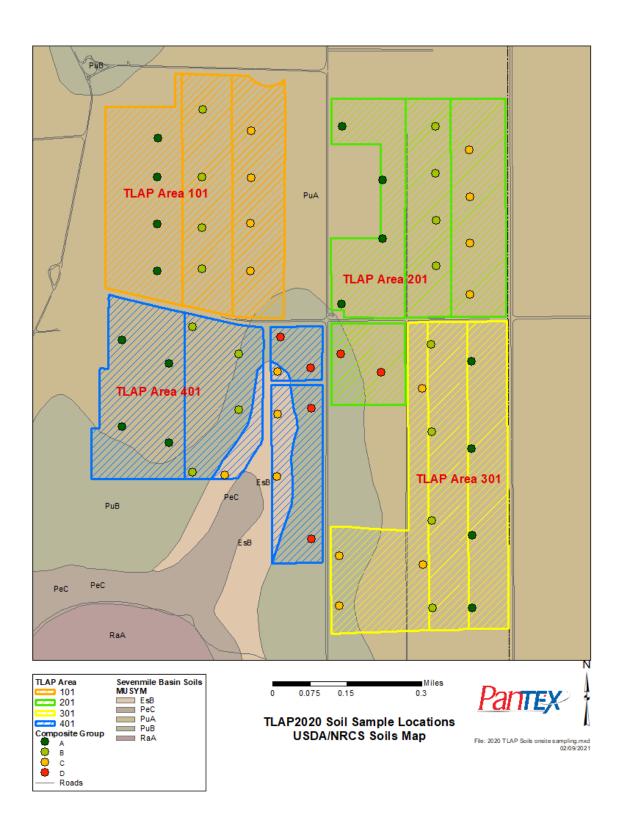


Figure 10.2 – TLAP Soil Sampling Locations for 2020

## **10.2.2** Surface Soil Metals Analysis

Soil samples collected from the Burning Ground and Playa 3 were analyzed for 10 metals (see the "BG Soil" column in Appendix C). Initial sample results for BG-SS-C3 indicated a potential Statistically Significant Increase (SSI) for copper. The measured value of copper in the sample was 59.0 mg/kg with the background comparison level being 53.84 mg/kg. As provided for in Provision VI.F.2 of Permit HW-50284, the copper value of 59.0 mg/kg is substantially below the risk-based standard established by the Pantex Corrective Action Program pursuant to Section XI of Permit HW-50284 for soil and sediment. As provided for in the provision, the comparison provides a determination that corrective action is not necessary. On September 21, 2020, resampling was conducted. The resampling results for copper of 20.0 mg/kg at location BG-SS-C3 did not confirm the potential SSI. All metal concentrations observed in 2020 were below the established permit background concentrations.

#### 10.2.3 Surface Soil Explosives Analysis

Soil samples collected from the Burning Ground and Playa 3 were analyzed for eight explosive compounds (Appendix C). All sampling results for explosives in 2020 were below the established permit background concentrations as shown in Tables D10.1 through D10.5 in Appendix D.

#### 10.3 SUBSURFACE DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM SOIL SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

In 2020, the annual TLAP subsurface drip irrigation system soil samples were collected from four locations: Tract 101; Tract 201; Tract 301; and Tract 401. Each tract represents 100 acres (ac). Representative soil samples were collected from the root zones of the irrigation areas using random sampling and composite techniques. Each composite sample represented no more than 40 ac with no less than two soil cores representing each composite sample. Subsamples were composited by like sampling depth and soil type, and individually at depths of 0 to 12 in and 12 to 24 in for analysis and reporting (Figure 10.2). These composite samples were analyzed for agricultural parameters, reactivity, two high explosives (HE), and one semi-volatile organic compound (SVOC). See the TLAP Soil column in Appendix C for specific analytes.

## 10.3.1 Subsurface Drip Irrigation System Soil Sampling Results

The 2020 subsurface soil sampling results for HE, reactivity, and SVOC were all non-detects. The results of the agricultural parameters (nutrient parameters analyzed on a plant available or extractable basis) are presented in Tables D10.6 through D10.9 in Appendix D. The TLAP subsurface soil sampling results are reported annually to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as report only information, with no comparison values. The agricultural parameters are also used for decision making regarding the addition of nutrient amendments to the agricultural soils.

#### 10.4 CONCLUSIONS

On-site Burning Ground surface soil monitoring results for 2020 were within the concentration ranges of the established background levels. Results of soil monitoring conducted at the subsurface irrigation for 2020 were consistent with previous year's results.

# Chapter 11 - Fauna

Fauna surveillance is a complementary program to air, flora, and water monitoring. The program is utilized in the assessment of potential short-term and long-term effects to the environment as a result of operations at Pantex Plant. The program utilizes the sampling of animals at Pantex Plant to determine whether Plant activities have an impact on them.

#### **Chapter Highlights**

 Comparisons of radionuclide concentrations in faunal samples indicated no detrimental effects from Pantex Plant operations in 2020.

#### 11.1 FAUNA SELECTION AT PANTEX PLANT

Due to their interactions with both primary (air, water) and secondary (vegetation) environmental media, black-tailed prairie dogs were the species selected for sampling. Although normally sampled, logistical problems with the securing of cottontails in Zones 4 and 12 prevented sampling of these animals in 2020. Concentrations in black-tailed prairie dog samples were compared to historical values and control location sample values.

## 11.2 RADIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE IN FAUNA

Semi-annual radionuclide surveillance of fauna (prairie dogs) at Pantex Plant was scheduled at six on-site locations and one control location. The sites were:

- Burning Ground,
- Firing Site 4 (FS-4),
- west of Zone 4,
- Playa 2,
- Playa 3,
- Zone 8, and
- Control site, Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge (BLNWR) near Umbarger, Texas.

BLNWR was chosen as the control site because fauna populations there are far enough from Pantex Plant (41 miles) to be unaffected by Plant operations, and more so than on private lands, affords a dependable availability of prairie dogs and property access. As in recent years, prairie dogs were not available at Playa 3 in 2020.

Sample animals are live-trapped, humanely euthanized, and shipped to the analytical lab. Whole-body composites are prepared for determination of tritium, uranium-233/234 (U-233/234), and uranium-238 (U-238) activities. These radionuclides are associated with activities at Pantex Plant, but are also naturally occurring in soils at and around Pantex Plant.

Analytical results of the 2020 faunal sampling are presented in Table 11.1, as are historical means (1997-2000). The range of years established as historical data is consistent among the soil, flora, and fauna media programs, allowing for comparison. The ranges represent the first four years of overlap of sampling under the three programs.

Table 11.1 – Tritium, U-233/234, and U-238 in Prairie Dogs in 2020, in pCi/g Dry Weight

	No. of				No. of	
Location	Samples	Maximum <sup>a</sup>	Minimum <sup>a</sup>	Mean ± Std. <sup>b</sup>	Samples in 1997-2000	1997-2000°
	(# ≤ MDA)				1997-2000	Mean ± Std.
m •••						
<u>Tritium</u> Zone 4 (W)	4 (4)	0.040 + 0.406	0.255 · 0.206d	0.006 + 0.125	10	0.012 - 0.270
Zone 8	4 (4)	$0.040 \pm 0.406$	$-0.255 \pm 0.296^{d}$	$-0.096 \pm 0.135$	10	$0.012 \pm 0.279$
Playa 2	4 (4)	$0.186 \pm 0.413$ -0.007 $\pm 0.326$	$-0.036 \pm 0.270$ $-0.186 \pm 0.380$	$0.076 \pm 0.093$	14	$0.017 \pm 0.065$ $0.055 \pm 0.136$
Burning Ground	4 (4)			$-0.110 \pm 0.085$	14	
Playa 3	4 (4)	$0.319 \pm 0.437$	$-0.006 \pm 0.348$	$0.099 \pm 0.153$	11 14	$0.152 \pm 0.300$ $0.019 \pm 0.070$
FS-4	2 (2)	$0.043 \pm 0.318$	$-0.011 \pm 0.302$	$0.016 \pm 0.038$	8	$0.019 \pm 0.070$ $0.313 \pm 0.321$
Buffalo Lake		$0.043 \pm 0.318$ $0.074 \pm 0.326$	$-0.011 \pm 0.302$ $-0.002 \pm 0.287$	$0.016 \pm 0.038$ $0.036 \pm 0.053$	14	$0.313 \pm 0.321$ $0.015 \pm 0.055$
Bullato Lake	2 (2)	$0.074 \pm 0.320$	$-0.002 \pm 0.287$	$0.030 \pm 0.033$	14	$0.013 \pm 0.033$
U-233/234						
Zone 4 (W)	4 (4)	$0.005 \pm 0.009$	$0.001 \pm 0.008$	$0.003 \pm 0.002$	10	$0.018 \pm 0.011$
Zone 8	4 (4)	$0.017 \pm 0.010$	$-0.006 \pm 0.013$	$0.005 \pm 0.009$	14	$0.012 \pm 0.019$
Playa 2	4 (4)	$0.007 \pm 0.010$	$0.002 \pm 0.008$	$0.004 \pm 0.002$	14	$0.013 \pm 0.022$
Burning Ground	4 (4)	$0.010 \pm 0.008$	$-0.003 \pm 0.010$	$0.005 \pm 0.006$	11	$0.018 \pm 0.040$
Playa 3					14	$0.020 \pm 0.022$
FS-4	2(2)	$0.009 \pm 0.010$	$0.005 \pm 0.007$	$0.007 \pm 0.003$	8	$0.017 \pm 0.018$
Buffalo Lake	2 (2)	$0.002 \pm 0.010$	$-0.006 \pm 0.010$	$-0.002 \pm 0.006$	14	$0.017 \pm 0.025$
U-238						
Zone 4 (W)	4 (4)	$0.014 \pm 0.009$	$-0.001 \pm 0.006$	$0.009 \pm 0.007$	10	$0.012 \pm 0.008$
Zone 8	4 (4)	$0.010 \pm 0.007$	$0.007 \pm 0.008$	$0.008 \pm 0.001$	11	$0.012 \pm 0.021$
Playa 2	4 (4)	$0.013 \pm 0.009$	$0.007 \pm 0.008$	$0.009 \pm 0.005$	11	$0.009 \pm 0.009$
Burning Ground	4 (4)	$0.013 \pm 0.009$	$0.003 \pm 0.007$	$0.008 \pm 0.004$	9	$0.013 \pm 0.026$
Playa 3					11	$0.011 \pm 0.015$
FS-4	2 (2)	$0.013 \pm 0.009$	$0.012 \pm 0.002$	$0.005 \pm 0.004$	8	$0.012 \pm 0.015$
Buffalo Lake	2(2)	$0.013 \pm 0.009$	$0.005 \pm 0.007$	$0.009 \pm 0.005$	11	$0.015 \pm 0.029$
	` ′					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Counting error at 95 percent confidence level. The second of each paired set of values in the "Maximum" and "Minimum" columns.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Standard deviation.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm c}$  Historical data period for Zone 4 (W), FS-4 and 12-36 is 2007-2010 due to these being newer sampling areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Negative values indicate results below the (statistically determined) background level from the counting system used at the analytical laboratory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Prairie dogs unavailable.

Twenty prairie dogs were sampled during 2020. Results were similar to or less than historic data, and all were below minimal detection activity (MDA; 100.0 percent). None of the results exceeded any of the Biota Concentration Guides for the analyzed radionuclides and thus would not be expected to cause a dose exceeding 0.1 rad/day for terrestrial animals.

## 11.3 CONCLUSIONS

Radionuclide concentrations in fauna samples were comparable to values observed in samples from control locations and historical data. All radionuclide analyses in sampled prairie dogs were reported to be below the minimum detectable activity. These results indicate that uptake of radionuclides by fauna on the Pantex Plant is similar to uptake by fauna at the control location.

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## Chapter 12 - Flora

Flora or vegetation surveillance is a complementary program to air, fauna, and water monitoring. The program is utilized in the assessment of potential short-term and long-term effects to the environment as a result of operations at Pantex Plant. The program utilizes radionuclide analyses on both native vegetation and crops.

## **CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS**

• Radionuclide measurements in vegetation samples from on and near the Pantex Plant were similar to historical data and vegetation samples from the control location.

#### 12.1 FLORA AT PANTEX PLANT

Flora at Pantex Plant consists of native vegetation and crops. Native vegetation species on the Southern High Plains consists primarily of prairie grasses and forbs. Crops are defined as any agricultural product harvested or gathered for animal or human food, including garden produce, forage, or fiber. Radionuclide concentrations in vegetation samples, from on-site and off-site locations, are compared to historical and control location sample values. Because vegetation species accumulate contaminants differently under varied growing conditions, data interpretation is complex, and results must be evaluated in concert with other environmental media.

#### 12.2 RADIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF VEGETATION

Surveillance of vegetation and crops at on-site and off-site locations is used to monitor potential impacts from current Pantex Plant operations at the Burning Ground, the Firing Sites, Zone 12, off-site at the immediate perimeter of the Plant site and out to approximately five miles from the center of the Plant (Figures 12.1 and 12.2). Rotational crops are also sampled (Figure 12.3). Background samples of crop and native vegetation species were collected from control locations at Bushland, Texas. The control locations were selected because of their distance and direction from Pantex Plant, ease of access, lack of industrial activity, and the presence of typical Southern High Plains vegetation.

Sampling locations are circles, approximately 33 feet in diameter, from which vegetation is collected, when it is available. Drought, cultivation, excessive grazing, prescribed burning, COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, and/or mowing may limit vegetation availability during certain parts of the growing season. Vegetation samples were analyzed for tritium, uranium-233/234 (U-233/234), and uranium-238 (U-238). Analytical data were corrected for moisture content and reported in picocuries per gram (pCi/g) dry weight. The onsite and off-site data were compared to those from the control locations and six-year mean values, where possible, to identify and interpret differences. Although the Department of Energy limits the dose to terrestrial plants to one rad/day (see Chapter 4), there are currently no limiting concentrations for tritium or uranium in vegetation.

### 12.2.1 Native Vegetation

Native vegetation samples, consisting primarily of stem and leaves from grasses and forbs, were collected from one control location, 11 on-site locations, and nine off-site locations. Sampling occurred during the growing season, no more frequently than once per month in normal years, but fewer samples were collected in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

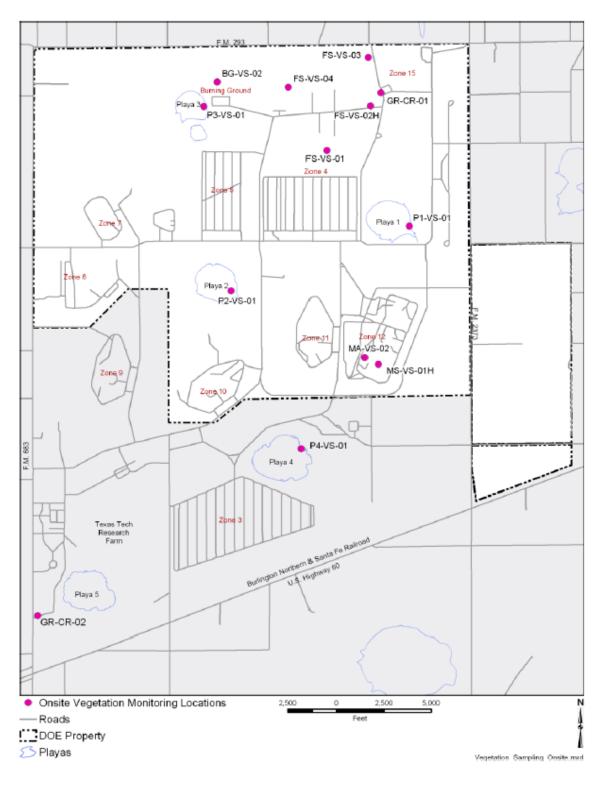
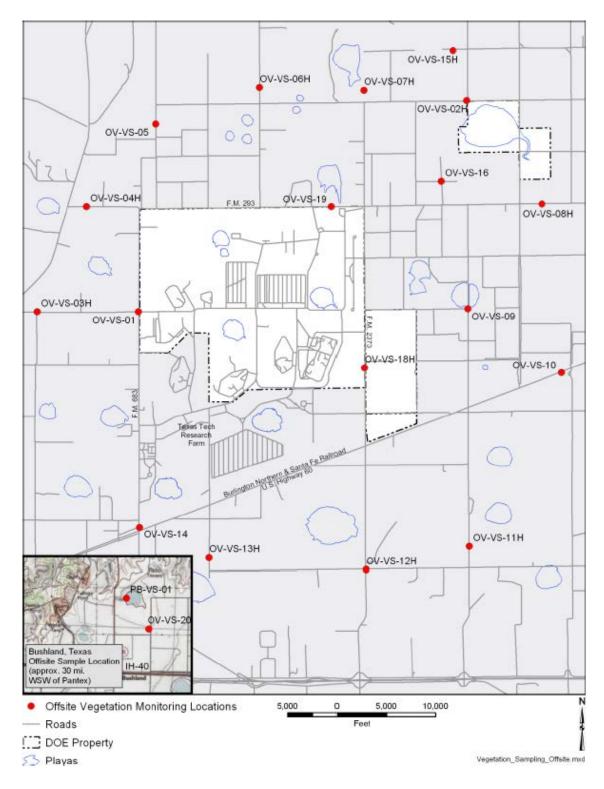


Figure 12.1 – On-site Vegetation Monitoring Locations

NOTE: On Figures 12.1, 12.2, and 12.3, note the following designations: B- Bushland, BG- Burning Ground, CR- crops, FS-Firing Sites, GR- garden produce, MA- Material Access Area, O- off-site, P- playa, S- sample, SO- grain sorghum, TL-Texas Land Application Permit, V-vegetation, and WW- winter wheat. Any sample location with H behind it is historical and is not currently being sampled.



**Figure 12.2 – Off-site Vegetation Monitoring Locations** 

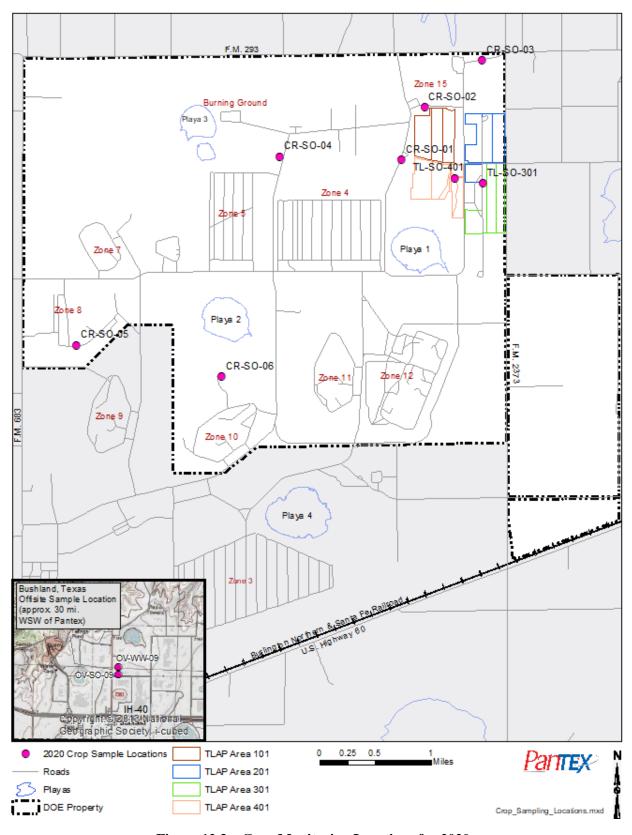


Figure 12.3 – Crop Monitoring Locations for 2020

Tritium results from 100 percent of on-site and off-site sample locations were at or below minimum detection activity (MDA) levels. The results from tritium analyses at all other on-site and off-site locations were similar to the results at the control location OV-VS-20 (Table 12.1) and the historical mean (calendar years 1997-2017).

Table 12.1 – Vegetation Comparison of Tritium 2020, Control Location, and Highs for the Year

<b>Sampling Location</b>	Tritium pCi/g + Error (2020)
OV-VS-19	0.26±0.40
FS-VS-03	0.26±0.43
OV-VS-20 (control)	0.24±0.38

The percentage of vegetation samples at or below the MDA level for U-233/234 and U-238 in all vegetation were 98 percent, for both data sets. Usually the percentage of vegetation samples at or below the MDA level is near 50 percent. The measured values in general for locations for the year were not significantly elevated and were comparable to the control location (Table 12.2). Results for all on-site and off-site locations were consistent with those found in previous years. Concentration of U-233/234 and U-238 in native vegetation indicates that no uptake of U-233/234 and U-238 into vascular plants has occurred.

Table 12.2 – Native Vegetation Comparison of U-233/234 2020 and the Control Location

<b>Sampling Location</b>	U-233/234 pCi/g + Error
P2-VS-01	$0.05 \pm 0.05$
MA-VS-02	0.05±0.05
PB-VS-01 (control)	0.01±0.02

#### **12.3 CROPS**

Crop surveillance enables the evaluation of potential impacts to humans and livestock from Pantex Plant operations. Samples of stems and leaves from dryland and irrigated grain sorghum were collected from onsite locations and from the Bushland, Texas control location. The winter wheat samples were not taken in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions beginning in April.

Crop sampling locations vary annually according to crop rotation. Garden produce was sampled at two specially grown garden locations: one on the northeast side of the Pantex Plant property and one on the southwest side of the Texas Tech University (TTU) property (Figure 12.1).

Six dryland grain sorghum samples, a duplicate sample from on-site, and a control sample from the control site were collected in August 2020. Dryland grain sorghum sampling locations were focused on the northeast side of the property, and two were from the TLAP area (Figure 12.3). Fruits and leaves from garden plants were sampled in August 2020.

All crop and garden samples were analyzed for tritium, U-233/234 and U-238. All crop and garden produce analyses in 2020 were at or below the MDA level for tritium, U-233/234, and U-238 and were comparable to the off-site control location. Results for all crop and garden results were similar to historical data with

the exception of one sorghum sample CR-SO-06. Results for this crop and garden locations are in (Table 12.3). Concentration of U-233/234 and U-238 in crop and garden vegetation indicates no uptake of U-233/234 and U-238 into vascular plants has occurred, and that the radiological dose to terrestrial plant of one rad/day, as indicated in DOE-STD-1153-2002 (DOEf), has not been exceeded.

Table 12.3 – Crop Comparison of U-233/234 and U-238 2020 and the Control Locations

Sampling Location	U-233/234 (pCi/g) + Error	U-238(pCi/g) + Error			
GR-CR-01	$0.04\pm0.04$	$0.01 \pm 0.02$			
GR-CR-02	0.01±0.02	$0.01 \pm 0.02$			
CR-SO-06	0.03±0.03	$0.05\pm0.04$			
OV-SO-09 (control)	$0.02\pm0.04$	$0.02\pm0.04$			

#### 12.4 CONCLUSIONS

Radionuclide concentrations in vegetation samples were comparable to values observed in samples from control locations or historical data. These data indicate the uptake of radionuclides by vegetation on or near the Pantex Plant is similar to uptake occurring in vegetation at the control location.

## **Chapter 13 - Quality Assurance**

Due to its unique mission and service to the country, Pantex Plant must strive to become a High Reliability Organization. High reliability includes robust quality assurance (QA) that ensures all environmental monitoring data provides definitive evidence of regulatory compliance and protection of human health and the environment. The complexity of analytical chemistry and radiochemistry performed to support environmental monitoring programs necessitates that Pantex Plant maintain an unparalleled QA and quality control (QC) program that meets our need for high reliability.

## **Chapter Highlights**

- More than 99 percent of the 2020 analytical results were useable for making environmental decisions.
- All Pantex Plant requirements for subcontract laboratories were met.

### 13.1 **OUALITY ASSURANCE AT PANTEX PLANT**

Pantex Plant has an established QA/QC program designed to ensure the reliability of analytical data used to support all site environmental programs. This program also satisfies the quality requirements implemented under the following:

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Record of Decision.
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality permits,
- Department of Energy (DOE) Order 414.1D Quality Assurance (DOEd), and
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)-2004 Environmental Management Systems Requirements with Guidance for Use, 2004 (ISO, 2004).

During 2020, the QA/QC program enhanced the reliability of data acquired for environmental monitoring, which includes air, soil, groundwater, surface water, flora, and fauna programs.

The ultimate goal of the Pantex Plant environmental monitoring QA/QC program is to consistently generate reliable, high quality environmental monitoring data. One measure of success for this QA/QC program is the amount of useable environmental data based on technical acceptance criteria for chemical and radiochemical measurements. By providing consistently useable data, Pantex Plant fosters a high degree of confidence for regulatory compliance and protection of human health and the environment with stakeholders. This approach also allows Pantex Plant to provide maximum value for the resources utilized to acquire environmental monitoring data.

## 13.2 ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ACQUISITION, PLANNING AND EXECUTION

Acquisition of environmental monitoring data is planned with its end use in mind. Each media scientist or subject matter expert defined the data collection requirements based on program needs and used guidance, such as Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) *QA/G4 Guidance for Data Quality Objective Process* (EPAc), in developing Data Quality Objectives (DQOs) for data collection. The media scientists prepared the DQOs based on the overall data collection needs, regulatory requirements, stakeholder concerns, technical factors, quality requirements, and historical data in their respective areas of expertise.

The approved DQO for a specific monitoring program was scheduled and executed by using technical specifications in the DQO. This included sample location, sampling frequency, analytical method, and data acceptance criteria. During 2020, each DQO was associated with a procedure, defining requirements for sample collection and data management. Procedures were reviewed and updated, as necessary, to reflect new requirements in associated DQOs or enhancements to the sample collection and data management process.

## 13.3 ENVIRONMENTAL DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

Pantex Plant relies on a robust quality system described in the Pantex Plant *Environmental Monitoring Program Management and Quality Plan, QPLAN-0010* (PANTEX<sub>j</sub>). The intent of this system is to integrate and manage quality elements for field sampling, laboratory analysis, data management, and to monitor and control factors that affect overall data quality. Components of this quality system are described below.

### 13.3.1 Field and Laboratory Assessments

Internal assessments are conducted annually, at a minimum, on representative field and laboratory operations. The assessments on field operations are performed on both liquid and solid media sampling programs. These assessments are used to assure the reliability and defensibility of analytical data acquired to support environmental monitoring programs. They are also a tool for continuous improvement of sampling operations, administrative functions, control procedures, and quality systems. Activities reviewed in the field assessment may include calibration and documentation for field equipment, proper field sampling procedures, provisions for minimization of potential sample contamination, compliance with Chain-of-Custody (COC) procedures, sample documentation, and sample transfer to the laboratory. Activities reviewed for laboratory operations may include quality systems, sample receiving, handling, COC, storage procedures, analytical instruments condition, analytical instruments calibrations, and sample disposal. It may also include documentation for laboratory procedures such as run logs, data reduction, and standard operating procedures.

Other assessments, including management and independent assessments, are also conducted. Most assessments are performed using checklists with specific criteria for each procedure observed. An exit meeting is conducted at the end of an audit to discuss the findings. The findings are summarized in a report, and a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) is submitted by the laboratory for all the findings, including the root cause, corrective action, personnel responsible for the corrective action implementation, and projected date for completion of the corrective action. A nonconformance report (NCR) is generated when a departure from documented requirements, such as procedures, sampling plans, and QC criteria, occurs. A formal Corrective Action Report (CAR) may be necessary depending on the severity, repetitiveness, and impact to reported data. Corrective actions are required to be implemented in a timely manner by the appropriate personnel who are knowledgeable about the work.

## 13.3.2 Annual Review of all Operations

Pantex Plant personnel conduct an annual review of the sampling operations, administrative functions, and quality systems to assure their continued effectiveness. The items reviewed include the suitability of policies and procedures, outcome of internal and external assessments, trending of NCRs and CARs, client complaints, changes in volume of work, staffing, and resources.

## 13.3.3 Recordkeeping

All environmental records and documents are issued, revised, controlled, stored, and archived in accordance with the requirements of Pantex Plant.

## 13.3.4 Quality Plan Requirements for Subcontract Laboratories

Subcontract laboratories are accredited by The National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) Institute (TNI) and are in accordance with Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 25 for all parameters within the scope of work provided by Pantex Plant. Exceptions might be made when TNI accreditation is not available.

Each subcontract laboratory must be qualified by Pantex Plant prior to receiving samples for analysis. The prequalification process includes a review of the technical proposal submitted by the prospective laboratory, successful analysis of Performance Evaluation (PE) samples, and a systems audit performed by a DOE Consolidated Audit Program (DOECAP) accrediting agency, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Analytical Management Program, or Pantex Supplier Quality Department.

In addition to the initial systems audit, all subcontract laboratories must submit to annual systems audits in order to maintain status as a qualified subcontract laboratory. These audits are technical and programmatic, and are performed by a DOECAP accrediting agency. Their purpose is to ensure that all existing subcontract laboratories are qualified to provide high quality analytical laboratory services.

A Data Package Assessment (DPA) is conducted annually at subcontract laboratories. In this type of assessment, random analytical deliverables are selected, and all the supporting documentation, such as calibration records, method detection limits, and QA/QC reports, are reviewed. The subcontract laboratory is also required to conduct internal audits at least annually to assure they are compliant with the laboratory's quality systems and with the *Pantex Statement of Work (SOW) for Analytical Laboratories* (PANTEXk).

Qualified subcontract laboratories must successfully analyze PE samples semi-annually in order to maintain qualified status, and they may be subject to submission of PE samples from Pantex Plant at any time. PE sample analyses are designed to evaluate normal laboratory operations, and evaluation of the PE sample results must consider factors, such as identification of false positives, false negatives, large analytical errors, and indications of calibration or dilution errors. If the subcontract laboratory performs any combination of inorganic, organic, and radiological testing, participation in two semi-annual inter-laboratory comparison PE programs is required.

NCRs are submitted by the laboratory if unacceptable PE results are reported. PE sample requirements may be waived for any analysis in which a suitable PE sample is not available. Sample shipments to a subcontract laboratory may be suspended if it is determined that the laboratory is not capable of meeting the analytical, QA, and deliverable requirements of the SOW.

#### 13.4 LABORATORY QUALITY ASSURANCE

During 2020, the Pantex Plant Laboratory Quality Assurance Program (LQAP) continued to provide qualified laboratory auditors to participate in DPAs. All Pantex Plant requirements for the subcontract laboratories were met. All of the subcontract laboratories had the proper certifications for analyzing environmental samples from Pantex Plant. They performed the necessary internal audits, and participated in the appropriate PE programs. Annual DOECAP audits were also conducted by accrediting agencies. A technical and contractual verification of the laboratory deliverables, performed by staff scientists as analytical results were received from the laboratories, ensured that contractual deliverable specifications,

technical content, and QC deliverables complied with SOW requirements consistent with industry standards.

## 13.4.1 Data Review and Qualification

Historically, the vast majority of analytical results are useable unless there is a catastrophic QA/QC failure (such as no surrogate or radiotracer recovery) during the analytical process that causes the results to be rejected (declared not useable). Based on industry standard conventions, sample results are qualified as useable by means of various data qualifier flags to alert the end user to any limitations in using the result. This approach was taken to make use of as many sample results as possible without sacrificing quality. Sample results that were completely unusable were rejected and not made available for use. Several criteria were used during the verification process so that analytical results could be appropriately qualified. Some of the criteria that caused data to be rejected during the verification process are described below.

- Missed Holding Times: The analysis was not initiated, or the sample was not extracted/prepared, within the time frame required by the EPA method and the SOW.
- Control Limits: A QC parameter, such as a surrogate, spike recovery, response factor, or tracer recovery, associated with a sample failed to meet the limits of acceptability.
- Not Confirmed: Analytical methods for high explosives and perchlorate may employ enhanced
  confirmation techniques, such as mass spectral or diode array detectors. This information is used
  to qualify data obtained from traditional techniques, such as use of a second chromatographic
  column, which may be prone to matrix interference. Second column confirmation is especially
  susceptible to false positives when the constituent of interest is at or near the method detection
  limit.
- Sample or Blank Contamination: The sensitivity of modern analytical techniques makes it
  virtually impossible to have a blank sample that is truly analyte-free. This is especially true for
  inorganic parameters such as metals. When the laboratory either accidentally contaminates the
  actual sample or the lab blank contains parameters of interest above a control limit, the associated
  sample results may be rejected.
- Other: This category includes, but is not limited to, the issues listed below.
  - o Broken chain of custody (COC): There was a failure to maintain proper custody of samples, as documented on COC forms and laboratory sample login records.
  - o Instrument Failure: Either the instrument failed to attain minimum method performance specifications or the instrument or a piece of equipment was not functioning.
  - O Preservation Requirements: The requirements, as identified by the EPA or a specific method, were not met and/or properly documented.
  - o Incorrect Test Method: The analysis was not performed according to a method contractually required by Pantex Plant.
  - o Incorrect or Inadequate Detection or Reporting Limit: The laboratory is required to attain specific levels of sensitivity when reporting target analytes, unless matrix effects prevent adequate detection and quantitation of the compound of interest.

The Pantex Plant media scientist was alerted to any limitations in the use of the data, based on the DQO requirements. Of the 18,644 individual results obtained in 2020 from all laboratory analyses, 99.29 percent were deemed to be of suitable quality for the intended end use of the data. Figure 13.1 graphically summarizes the causes for the 0.71 percent of data rejected.

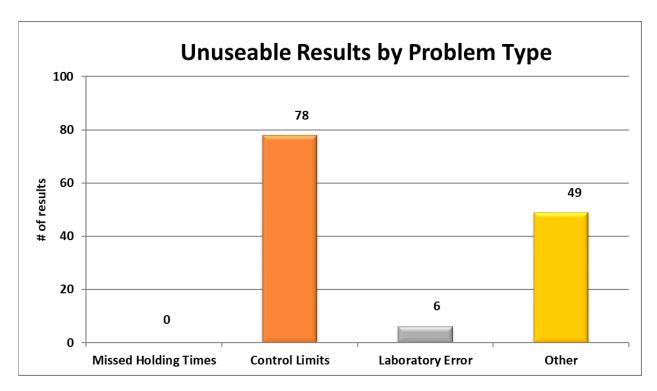


Figure 13.1 – 2020 Data Rejection Summary

## 13.4.2 Laboratory Technical Performance

All subcontract laboratories were required to participate in inter-laboratory comparison studies administered by DOE, Environmental Resource Associates (ERA), and/or EPA. In 2020, the Pantex Plant off-site subcontract laboratories participated in the Multimedia Radiochemistry (MRaD) PE sample analysis, sponsored by ERA.

The MRaD samples include radiological compounds in matrices including water, soil, air filters, and vegetation. MRaD results, particularly the results for MRaD Series 32 and 33, for all participating subcontract laboratories used by Pantex Plant in 2020 (GEL and TestAmerica) are presented in Figure 13.2. Both subcontract laboratories had acceptable MRaD results in 2020.

The primary purpose of the PE programs is to measure a laboratory's implementation of methods to obtain accurate results and serve as a comparison between laboratories. The SOW and DOECAP have requirements that all labs shall participate in several PE programs.

#### 13.5 FIELD OPERATIONS QUALITY ASSURANCE

QA samples, such as duplicates, replicates, blanks, and equipment rinsates, were collected at intervals specified in the DQOs. This was initiated to allow the media scientists to evaluate the data for potential bias or variability originating from either the sampling or the analytical process.

#### 13.5.1 Duplicate and Replicate Analyses

During 2020, Pantex Plant continued to collect and analyze field duplicate and replicate samples. A true field duplicate sample set consists of a thoroughly homogenized sample collected from one desired location.

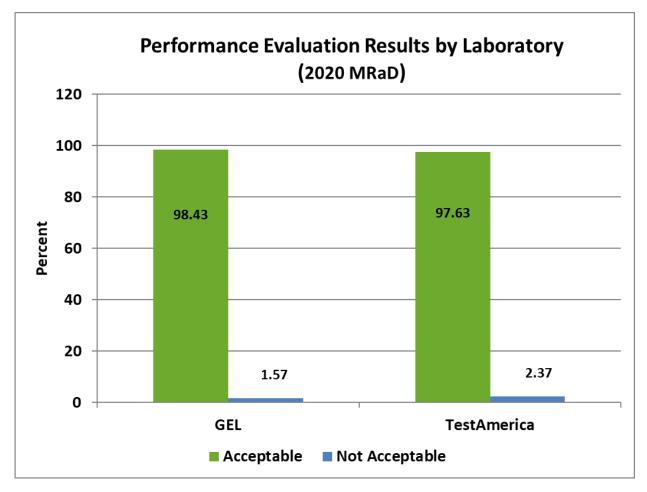


Figure 13.2 – 2020 MRaD Results

The sample is split into two discrete samples and may even be labeled as representing two separate sampling locations. When the laboratory is not informed that the two samples are sub-samples from a single sampling location, these samples are referred to as blind duplicate samples. When samples are collected from the same site at the same time, the samples are considered field replicates. For comparison purposes, field duplicates and field replicates are evaluated by the same criteria. Random replicate samples were collected for all media except air and fauna. These exceptions are based upon the uniqueness of the sample type and the inability to replicate the sample.

The vegetation program's isotopic uranium data were analyzed to compare actual sample values to field replicate values. This program was chosen for statistical analysis because of the relatively high number of replicates required during the sample collection process. The replicate error ratio (RER) was used to

perform the replicate analysis. The ratio takes into account the sample and replicate uncertainty to determine data variability. The RER is given by:

RER =  $|S - R| / (\sigma 95S + \sigma 95R)$ ;

Where:

RER = replicate error ratio S = sample value (original) R = replicate sample value

 $\sigma$ 95S = sample uncertainty (95 percent)  $\sigma$ 95R = replicate uncertainty (95 percent)

An RER of less than or equal to one indicates that the replicates are comparable within the 95 percent confidence interval. For 2020, the average RER value for vegetation data was 0.433 with an associated standard deviation of 0.338. The 2020 vegetation sample RER analysis indicated that field replicate sample precision accurately reflects the actual sample value. Figure 13.3 summarizes the RER data.

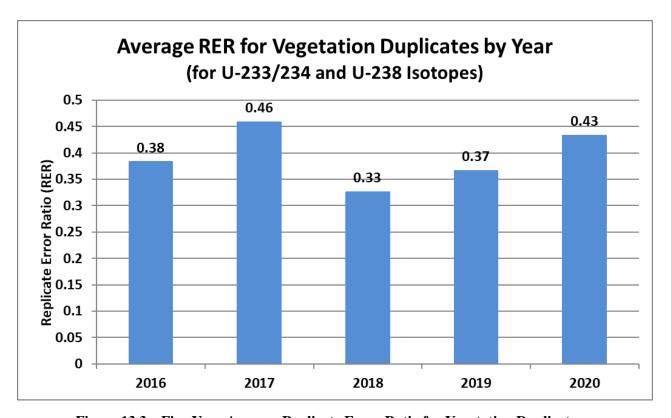


Figure 13.3 – Five Year Average Replicate Error Ratio for Vegetation Duplicates

#### 13.5.2 Blanks and Rinsates

During 2020, trip blanks, field blanks, and/or rinsate samples were collected for all applicable media programs. Blank samples were used to evaluate contamination that may have occurred during sampling, sample shipment, or laboratory operations. Trip blank and field blank values were used to flag detections found in sample values. The detections found were used to flag associated sample detects as "U" (undetected).

A rinsate (equipment) blank is a sample of analyte-free water poured over or through decontaminated sampling equipment. The rinse solution is collected to show that there is no contamination from the sampling tool, or cross-contamination between samples.

Field blanks are analyte-free water samples that are taken to the field and opened for the duration of the sampling event and then closed and sent to the lab. Field blanks assess if airborne contamination exists at the sampling site.

Trip blanks are provided for each shipping container (cooler) containing VOC vials to evaluate potential contamination of the sample bottles during shipment from the manufacturer, storage of the bottles, shipment to the laboratory, or analysis at the laboratory. VOCs were detected in trip blanks in 2020. These compounds are indicative of common laboratory solvents. The frequency of detection was 0.56 percent.

### 13.6 ON-SITE ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES

A limited number of samples were analyzed on-site during 2020, using approved EPA or standard industry methods. On-site analyses included the following:

• Pantex Plant Materials and Analytical Services Laboratory performed analysis of samples for alkalinity, nitrate, nitrite, and hexavalent chromium.

The on-site laboratories followed an internal QC program similar to the program outlined in the SOW. The on-site laboratories were audited by the Plant's internal quality audit program. Sampling technicians performed field measurements of certain samples for residual chlorine, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, conductivity, hydrogen sulfide, temperature, Oxidation Reduction Potential, and pH.

#### 13.7 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

During 2020, Pantex Plant acquired analytical data to support several aspects of the environmental monitoring program as required by permits, regulations, and DOE Orders. The QA/QC program described in this chapter was implemented to ensure the programmatic and technical elements required to meet these criteria were executed. In addition, this program functioned to provide cost efficient analytical data of known and defensible quality.

Overall, programmatic data quality has continued to improve because of improved analytical methods, QA/QC practices, and refinement of DQOs, which can be quantified by trending the amount of useable data acquired over the past 20 plus years (Figure 13.4). Using 1996 as the base year, a 95 percent lower performance target was established to trend data usability. As with any data collection process, improvements are continually being made in defining technical specifications and improving sample collection methodology, laboratory instrumentation, and QC practices. It is important to remember that any viable quality system undergoes continuous improvement by the very nature of the quality elements employed. This is the QA/QC program perspective used to review data critically for the annual site environmental report.

A well-established quality framework exists at Pantex Plant that supports the environmental monitoring program. The acquisition and review of analytical data is based on procedurally controlled sampling, analysis, data management (validation), and standardized technical specifications governing analytical measurements. The integration of each of these elements ensures environmental data collection and monitoring requirements are achieved for meeting all site and stakeholder requirements for quality and reliability.

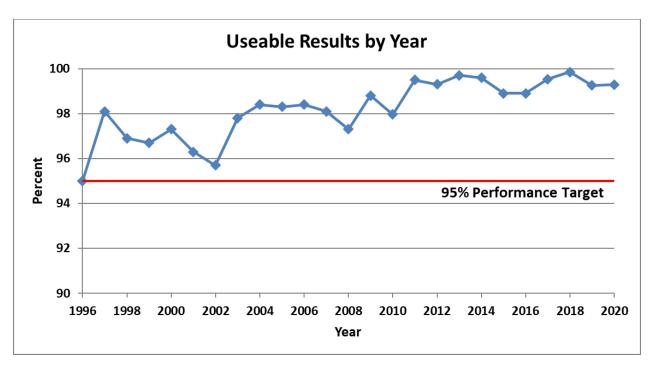


Figure 13.4 – History of Useable Results Data

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# **Appendix A - Birds Identified at Pantex Plant in 2020**

Common Name	Scientific Name
Cattle egret	Bubulcus ibis
Great blue heron	Ardea herodias
Sandhill crane	Grus canadensis
Canada goose	Branta canadensis
Cackling goose	Branta hutchinsii
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos
Northern pintail	Anas acuta
Northern shoveler	Anas clypeata
Canvasback	Aythya valisineria
Lesser scaup	Aythya affinis
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola
American avocet	Recurvirostra americana
Upland sandpiper	Bartramia longicauda
American kestrel	Falco sparverius
Peregrine falcon	Falco peregrinus
Prairie falcon	Falco mexicanus
Red-tailed hawk	Buteo jamaicensis
Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni
Ferruginous hawk	Buteo regalis
Northern harrier	Circus cyaneus
Turkey vulture	Cathartes aura
Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos
American bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus
Eurasian collared dove	Streptopelia decaocto
Rock pigeon (feral)	Columba livia

Common Name	Scientific Name
Great-horned owl	Bubo virginianus
Barn Owl	Tyto alba
Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia hypugea
Common nighthawk	Chordeiles minor
Western kingbird	Tyrannus verticalis
Barn swallow	Hirundo rustica
Chihuahuan raven	Corvus cryptoleucus
Rock wren	Salpinctes obsoletus
Northern mockingbird	Mimus polyglottos
Curve-billed thrasher	Toxostoma curvirostre
Grasshopper sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum
White-crowned sparrow	Zonotrichia leucophrys
Lark bunting	Calamospiza melanocorys
Western meadowlark	Sturnella neglecta
Red-winged blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus
House sparrow	Passer domesticus

## **Appendix B - 2020 Drinking Water Analytical Results**

CONTAMINANT CATEGORY	ANALYTE	MEASURED VALUE	ACTION LEVEL/MAX CONTAMINAT E LEVEL
DISINFECTANT	Residual Chlorine	2.0 mg/L	4.0 mg/L
	Bromodichloromethane	5.21 μg/L	N/A
TRIHALOMETHANES	Dibromochloromethane	5.76 μg/L	N/A
TTHM2	Bromoform	2.62 μg/L	N/A
11111112	Chloroform	5.21 μg/L	N/A
TOTAL TRIE	IALOMETHANES <sup>23</sup>	19.5 μg/L	80 μg/L
	Bromochloroacetic acid	2.00 μg/L	N/A
	Dibromoacetic acid	1.00 μg/L	N/A
HALOACETIC ACIDS <sup>24</sup>	Dichloroacetic acid	2.00 μg/L	N/A
TTHM2	Monobromoacetic acid	1.00 μg/L	N/A
1111112	Monochloroacetic acid	1.00 μg/L	N/A
	Trichloroacetic acid	1.00 μg/L	N/A
TOTAL HAL	OACETIC ACIDS <sup>25</sup>	6.00 μg/L	60 μg/L
	Vinyl chloride	$<$ 0.500 $\mu$ g/L	2 μg/L
	1,1-Dichloroethene	$<$ 0.500 $\mu$ g/L	7 μg/L
	Methylene chloride	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	<0.500 μg/L	100 μg/L
	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	<0.500 μg/L	70 μg/L
	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	200 μg/L
	Carbon tetrachloride	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
Volatile Organic	1,2-Dichloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
Compounds	Benzene	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
	Trichloroethene	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
	1,2-Dichloropropane	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
	Toluene	<0.500 ug/L	1,000 ug/L
	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	5 μg/L
	Tetrachloroethene	<0.500 ug/L	5 ug/L
	Chlorobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	100 μg/L
	Ethyl Benzene	<0.500 μg/L	700 μg/L

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Individual disinfection by-products are not regulated.
 <sup>23</sup> Only Total Trihalomethanes are regulated.
 <sup>24</sup> Individual disinfection by-products are not regulated
 <sup>25</sup> Only Total Haloacetic Acids are regulated.

CONTAMINANT CATEGORY	ANALYTE	MEASURED VALUE	ACTION LEVEL/MAX CONTAMINAT E LEVEL	
	m,p-Xylene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Styrene	<0.500 μg/L	100 μg/L	
	1,4-Dichlorobenzene	<0.500 ug/L	75 ug/L	
	1,2-Dichlorobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	600 μg/L	
	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	70 μg/L	
	Xylene (total)	<0.500 μg/L	10,000 μg/L	
	Dichlorodifluoromethane	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Chloromethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Bromomethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Chloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	4-Chlorotoluene	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Trichlorofluoromethane	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Acetone	<5.00 μg/L	N/A	
	Methyl iodide	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Tert-Butyl methyl ether (MTBE)	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Carbon disulfide	<0.500 µg/L	N/A	
	Acrylonitrile	<0.500 µg/L	N/A	
77 - 1 - 431 - O 3 -	1,1-Dichloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
Volatile Organic Compounds	Vinyl acetate	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
Compounds	2,2-Dichloropropane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	2-Butanone	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Bromochloromethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Tetrahydrofuran	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Chloroform	<1.00 ug/L	N/A	
	1,1-Dichloropropene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Methyl methacrylate	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Dibromomethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Bromodichloromethane	<1.00 μg/L	N/A	
	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	4-Methyl-2-pentanone	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	
	Trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Ethyl methacrylate	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	1,3-Dichloropropane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	2-Hexanone	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	Dibromochloromethane	1.02 ug/L	N/A	
	1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A	
	o-Xylene	<0.500 ug/L	N/A	

CONTAMINANT CATEGORY	ANALYTE	MEASURED VALUE	ACTION LEVEL/MAX CONTAMINAT E LEVEL		
	Bromoform	<1.00 ug/L	N/A		
	lsopropylbenzene (Cumene)	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloromethane	<0.500 ug/L	N/A		
	Bromobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	1,2,3-Trichloropropane	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	n-Propylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	2-Chlorotoluene	<0.500 ug/L	N/A		
	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
Volatile Organic	tert-Butylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
Compounds	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
r	sec-Butylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	1,3-Dichlorobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	4-lsopropyltoluene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	n-Butylbenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	Hexachlorobutadiene	<0.500 ug/L	N/A		
	Naphthalene	<0.500 ug/L	N/A		
	1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	<0.500 μg/L	N/A		
	Nitrate (as N)	1.35 mg/L	10 mg/L		
<b>Inorganic Compounds</b>	Fluoride	1.54 mg/L	4 mg/L		
	Chloride	13.7 mg/L	N/A		
	Sulfate	21.1 mg/L	N/A		

## **Appendix C – Analytes Monitored in 2020**

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	DWb	SWc	IW⁴	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWi	Fauna
Radionuclides											
Gross alpha, total	12587-46-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross beta, total	12587-47-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plutonium-238	12059-95-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plutonium-239/240	10-12-8	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tritium	10028-17-8	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+
Uranium-233/234	11-08-5	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
Uranium-235/236	15117-96-1	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uranium-238	7440-61-1	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+
Metals											
Aluminum	7429-90-5	-	+	+	-	1	-	-	-	+	-
Antimony	7440-36-0	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Arsenic	7440-38-2	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Barium	7440-39-3	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Beryllium	7440-41-7	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Boron	7440-42-8	1	+	-	-	+	+	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$ m DW^b$	SW <sup>c</sup>	IW <sup>d</sup>	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Cadmium	7440-43-9	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Calcium	7440-70-2	-	+	+	-	-	-	+ i	-	+	-
Chromium	7440-47-3	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Chromium (hexavalent)	18540-29-9	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Cobalt	7440-48-4	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Copper	7440-50-8	-	+	+	+	+	+	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	-
Iron	7439-89-6	-	+	+	+	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Ferric Iron	N/A	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ferrous Iron	1345-25-1	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lead	7439-92-1	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Magnesium	7439-95-4	-	+	+	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	-
Manganese	7439-96-5	-	+	+	+	+	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	-
Manganese, divalent	16397-91-4	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mercury	7439-97-6	1	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Nickel	7440-02-0	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Potassium	7440-09-7	-	+	+	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	-
Selenium	7782-49-2	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Silver	7440-22-4	1	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	$\mathrm{GW^a}$	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SWc	IW⁴	BG° Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathbf{j}}$	Fauna
Sodium	7440-23-5	-	+	+	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Strontium	7440-24-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thallium	7440-28-0	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Tin	7440-31-5	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Titanium	7440-32-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uranium, Total	11-09-6	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vanadium	7440-62-2	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zinc	7440-66-6	-	+	+	+	+	+	+ i	-	+	-
Explosives											
1,3-dinitrobenzene	99-65-0	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene	99-35-4	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
2-amino-4,6-dinitrotoluene	35572-78-2	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-nitrotoluene	88-72-2	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4-dinitrotoluene	121-14-2	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
2,6-dinitrotoluene	606-20-2	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
3-nitrotoluene	99-08-1	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene	19406-51-0	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-nitrotoluene	99-99-0	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
HMX	2691-41-0	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{I}\mathbf{W}^{ extsf{d}}$	BG° Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWj	Fauna
Nitrobenzene	98-95-3	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-
PETN	78-11-5	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
RDX	121-82-4	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
TATB	3058-38-6	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
Tetryl	479-45-8	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
TNT	118-96-7	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
MNX	5755-27-1	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNX	80251-29-2	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TNX	13980-04-6	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)											
Aroclor 1016	12674-11-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aroclor 1221	1104-28-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aroclor 1232	11141-16-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	_
Aroclor 1242	53469-21-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	_
Aroclor 1248	12672-29-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aroclor 1254	11091-69-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aroclor 1260	11096-82-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PCB, Total	1336-36-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG° Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWi	Fauna
Pesticides											
Alachlor	15972-60-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aldrin	309-00-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Atrazine	1912-24-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromacil	314-40-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
alpha-Chlordane	57-74-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chlordane	12789-03-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
gamma-Chlordane	5566-34-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dieldrin	60-57-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endrin	72-20-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heptachlor	76-44-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heptachlor epoxide	1024-57-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lindane (gamma-BHC)	58-89-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methoxychlor	72-43-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl n,n-dimethyl-n- {(methlycarbamoyl)oxy}-1	23135-22-0	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
s-Methyl-n-((Methylcarb amoyl)-oxy)-thioacetimidate	16752-77-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metribuzin	21087-64-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prometon	1610-18-0	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Propachlor	1918-16-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SWc	IW <sup>d</sup>	BG° Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathbf{j}}$	Fauna
Sevin (carbaryl)	63-25-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Simazine	122-34-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Toxaphene	8001-35-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
trans-Nonachlor-chlordane	57-74-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herbicides											
2,4-D	94-75-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous											
Alkalinity	T-005	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonia (as N)	7664-41-7	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Biochemical oxygen demand	10-26-3	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Bromide	24959-67-9	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand	10078	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Chemical oxygen demand	C-004	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Chlorate	14866-68-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chloride	16887-00-6	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Chlorine residual	7782-50-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Color	M-002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corrosivity	10-37-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cyanide, free	10-71-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	IW <sup>d</sup>	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Cyanide, total	57-12-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Dissolved Organic Carbon	11-59-6	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dissolved Oxygen	NA	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electrical Conductivity-Paste	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Fluoride	7782-41-4	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Foaming agents (surfactants)	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ignitability	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Nitrate (as N)	14797-55-8	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
Nitrate/nitrite (as N)	1-005	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Nitrite (as N)	14797-65-0	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oil and grease	10-30-0	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
Ortho Phosphate	14265-44-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Oxidation – Reduction Potential		-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perchlorate	14797-73-0	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
рН	10-29-7	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-
pH (1:1 ratio soil pH)	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
pH (2:1 ratio soil pH)	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Phosphorus, Total (As P)	7723-14-0	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Reactivity	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$DW^{b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$IW^d$	BG° Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWi	Fauna
Sodium Adsorption Ratio	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Specific conductance	10-34-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Sulfate	14808-79-8	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Sulfide	18496-25-8	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sulfur	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	-	-
Temperature	NA	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-
Total dissolved solids	10-33-3	_	+	-	1	1	-	-	-	+	1
Total hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	11-02-9	_	-	+	1	1	-	-	-	+	1
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	NA	_	-	-	1	1	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	1
Total Nitrogen	NA	-	-	-	1	-	-	+ <sup>i</sup>	-	+	-
Total organic carbon	C-012	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Total petroleum hydrocarbons	10-90-2	-	-	_	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total suspended solids	10053	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Turbidity	G-019	_	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volatile Organics											
1,1,1,2-tetrachloroethane	630-20-6	-	-	+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	79-34-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1,1-trichloroethane	71-55-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1,2-trichloroethane	79-00-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GWa	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$IW^d$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWj	Fauna
1,2,3-tricholorobenzene	87-61-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2,3-trichloropropane	96-18-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	95-63-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	108-67-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1-dichloroethane	75-34-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1-dichloroethene	75-35-4	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,1-dichloropropene	563-58-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane	96-12-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dibromoethane	106-93-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dichlorobenzene	95-50-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dichloroethane	107-06-2	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dichloroethene	156-60-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
cis-1,2-dichloroethene	156-59-2	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
trans-1,2-dichloroethene	156-60-5	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-dichloropropane	78-87-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,3-dichlorobenzene	541-73-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,3-dichloropropane	142-28-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
cis-1,3-dichloropropene	10061-01-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
trans-1,3-dichloropropene	10061-02-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	$\mathrm{GW}^{\mathrm{a}}$	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathbf{j}}$	Fauna
trans-1,4-dichloro-2-butene	110-57-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,4-dichlorobenzene	106-46-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,2-dichloropropane	594-20-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-butanone (methyl ethyl ketone)	78-93-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-chloro-1,3-butadiene	126-99-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-chlorotoluene	95-49-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-hexanone	591-78-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-chlorotoluene	106-43-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-isopropyltoluene	99-87-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetone	67-64-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetonitrile	75-05-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetylene	74-86-2	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acrolein	107-02-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acrylonitrile	107-13-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Allyl Chloride	107-05-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzene	71-43-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromobenzene	108-86-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromochloromethane	74-97-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromodichloromethane	75-27-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	DWb	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWi	Fauna
Bromoform	75-25-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromomethane	74-83-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sec-Butylbenzene	135-98-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
tert-Butylbenzene	98-06-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbon disulfide	75-15-0	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbon tetrachloride	56-23-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chlorobenzene	108-90-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chloroethane	75-00-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chloroform	67-66-3	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chloromethane	74-87-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibromochloromethane	124-48-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibromomethane	74-95-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dichlorodifluoromethane	75-71-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethylbenzene	100-41-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethyl methacrylate	97-63-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Freon 113	76-13-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iodomethane	74-88-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isobutyl alcohol	78-83-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isopropylbenzene	98-82-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	$\mathrm{GW}^{\mathrm{a}}$	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Methylacrylonitrile	126-98-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methylene chloride	75-09-2	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl isobutyl ketone	108-10-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl methacrylate	80-62-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
n-Butylbenzene	104-51-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
n-Propylbenzene	103-65-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pentachloroethane	76-01-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Propionitrile	107-12-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Styrene	100-42-5	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
tert-Butyl methyl ether	1634-04-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetrachloroethylene	127-18-4	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetrahydrofuran	109-99-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Toluene	108-88-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trichloroethene (Trichloroethylene)	79-01-6	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trichlorofluoromethane	75-69-4	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vinyl acetate	108-05-4	_	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vinyl chloride	75-01-4	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xylene, m	108-38-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xylene, o	95-47-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	IW <sup>d</sup>	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Xylene, p	106-42-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xylenes, Total	1330-20-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Semi Volatile Organic Compounds											
1,2,4,5-tetrachlorobenzene	95-94-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	120-82-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,2-diphenylhydrazine	122-66-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,4-dioxane	123-91-1	-	+	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
1,4-naphthoquinone	130-15-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,3,4,6-tetrachlorophenol	58-90-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4,5-trichlorophenol	95-95-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	88-06-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4-dichlorophenol	120-83-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4-dimethylphenol	105-67-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,4-dinitrophenol	51-28-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-chloronaphthalene	91-58-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-chlorophenol	95-57-8	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-methylnaphthalene	91-57-6	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-methylphenol (o-Cresol)	795-48-7	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
4,6-dinitro-2-methylphenol	534-52-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	$\mathrm{GW}^{\mathrm{a}}$	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
4-chloroaniline	106-47-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether	7005-72-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-methylphenol (p-Cresol)	106-44-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acenaphthene	83-32-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acenaphthylene	208-96-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetophenone	98-86-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthracene	120-12-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzidine	92-87-5	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzo[a]anthracene	56-55-3	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzo[a]pyrene	50-32-8	_	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzo[b]fluoranthene	205-99-2	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene	191-24-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzo $[k]$ fluoranthene	207-08-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzoic acid	65-85-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzyl alcohol	100-51-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	111-44-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	39638-32-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	103-23-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	117-81-7	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	$\mathrm{GW^a}$	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	IW <sup>d</sup>	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Butachlor	23184-66-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Butyl benzyl phthalate	85-68-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbazole	86-74-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cresol, m	108-39-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chrysene	218-01-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibenz[a,h]anthracene	53-70-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibenzofuran	132-64-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibromoacetic acid	631-64-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dichloroacetic acid	79-43-6	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diethyl phthalate	84-66-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dimethyl phthalate	131-11-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Di-n-butyl phthalate	84-74-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Di-n-octyl phthalate	117-84-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphenylamine	122-39-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fluoranthene	206-44-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fluorene	86-73-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hexachlorobenzene	118-74-1	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hexachlorobutadiene	87-68-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	77-47-4	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^{b}}$	SWc	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathrm{j}}$	Fauna
Hexachloroethane	67-72-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	193-39-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isophorone	78-59-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monobromoacetic acid	79-08-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monochloroacetic acid	79-11-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl iodide	74-88-4			+						-	
Naphthalene	91-20-3	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-nitrosodiethylamine	55-18-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-nitrosodimethylamine	62-75-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-nitrosodiphenylamine	86-30-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-nitrosodi-n-propylamine	621-64-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-nitrosopyrrolidine	930-55-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parathion, ethyl	56-38-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parathion, methyl	298-00-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pentachlorophenol	87-86-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Phenanthrene	85-01-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phenol	108-95-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pronamide	23950-58-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pyrene	129-00-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	DWb	SW <sup>c</sup>	$\mathbf{IW^d}$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{\mathbf{j}}$	Fauna
Pyridine	110-86-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trichloroacetic acid	76-03-9	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biological											
Complete blood count	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Histopathology	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Necropsy	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Total coliform bacteria	10-46-8	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Escherichia coli	NA	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Eastern encephalitis	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Western encephalitis	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Hanta virus	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Plague bacteria	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Pseudorabies	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Tuleremia	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Volatile Fatty Acids <sup>h</sup>											
Acetic Acid	64-19-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Butyric Acid	107-92-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hexanoic Acid	142-62-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
i-Hexanoic Acid	646-07-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analyte	CAS Number	Air	GW <sup>a</sup>	$\mathrm{DW^b}$	SW <sup>c</sup>	$IW^d$	BG <sup>e</sup> Soil	TLAP Soil <sup>f</sup>	Veg. <sup>g</sup>	WWi	Fauna
i-Pentanoic Acid	503-74-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lactic Acid and HIBA	50-21-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pentanoic Acid	109-52-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Propionic Acid	79-09-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pyruvic Acid	127-17-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dissolved Gases <sup>h</sup>											
Ethane	74-84-0	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethene	74-85-1	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methane	74-82-8	_	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-
<sup>a</sup> Groundwater											

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Drinking water

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Storm water and playas

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Irrigation water

e Burning Ground soils & sediment
f Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) soils

g Vegetation

h Only applicable to ISB and ISPM wells to monitor performance of the ISB Systems TLAP nutrient parameters analyzed on a plant available or extractable basis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>j</sup> Wastewater

<sup>+ =</sup> Sampled for

<sup>- =</sup> Not sampled
NA = Not available

# Appendix D – 2020 Soil Sampling Monitoring Results

Table D10.1 – Sampling Location: BG-SS-C1

Table D10.1 – Sampling Location: BG-55-C1									
Constituent (Code)	Monitoring Result (mg/kg)	Background Comparison Level (mg/kg)	Monitoring Result Exceeds Background?						
Silver (Ag)	1.5	8.4	No						
Boron (B)	7.1	50	No						
Cadmium (Cd)	0.51	1	No						
Cobalt (Co)	6.6	17.6	No						
Chromium (Cr)	11	19.9	No						
Copper (Cu)	17	67.3	No						
2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT)	< 0.10	0.5	No						
2,6-dinitrotoluene (2,6-DNT)	< 0.10	0.5	No						
Mercury (Hg)	0.22	0.3	No						
Octahyro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazozine (HMX)	67	858.2	No						
Nickel (Ni)	13	29.8	No						
Lead (Pb)	18	54.8	No						
Pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)	<2	5	No						
Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX)	0.12	2.6	No						
Triaminonitrobenzene (TATB)	< 0.40	23.3	No						
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNB135)	< 0.10	10	No						
Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	< 0.10	10	No						
Zinc (Zn)	64	160.6	No						

**Table D10.2 – Sampling Location: BG-SS-C2** 

Tuble D10.2 Sumpling Detailor. D6 55 C2									
Constituent (Code)	Monitoring Result (mg/kg)	Background Comparison Level (mg/kg)	Monitoring Result Exceeds Background?						
Silver (Ag)	0.078	1	No						
Boron (B)	6.7	50	No						
Cadmium (Cd)	0.25	1	No						
Cobalt (Co)	6.8	8.8	No						
Chromium (Cr)	12	16.2	No						
Copper (Cu)	20	75.4	No						
2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT)	< 0.099	0.5	No						
2,6-dinitrotoluene (2,6-DNT)	< 0.099	0.5	No						
Mercury (Hg)	< 0.04	0.2	No						
Octahyro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazozine (HMX)	< 0.099	1	No						
Nickel (Ni)	13	24.5	No						
Lead (Pb)	11	77.8	No						
Pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)	< 2	5	No						
Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX)	< 0.2	1	No						
Triaminonitrobenzene (TATB)	< 0.4	3	No						
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNB135)	< 0.099	10	No						
Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	< 0.099	10	No						
Zinc (Zn)	82	317.3	No						

Table D10.3 – Sampling Location: BG-SS-C3

	o.s Sampling Loc		
Constituent (Code)	Monitoring Result (mg/kg)	Background Comparison Level (mg/kg)	Monitoring Result Exceeds Background?
Silver (Ag)	0.41	1	No
Boron (B)	8.2	50	No
Cadmium (Cd)	0.64	1	No
Cobalt (Co)	6.7	18.7	No
Chromium (Cr)	12	28.9	No
Copper (Cu)	24	53.8	No
2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT)	< 0.099	0.5	No
2,6-dinitrotoluene (2,6-DNT)	< 0.099	0.5	No
Mercury (Hg)	0.052	0.2	No
Octahyro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazozine (HMX)	79	367.1	No
Nickel (Ni)	13	30.9	No
Lead (Pb)	23	54.9	No
Pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)	< 2	5	No
Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX)	0.24	1.8	No
Triaminonitrobenzene (TATB)	< 0.4	26.9	No
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNB135)	< 0.099	10	No
Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	< 0.099	10	No
Zinc (Zn)	78	168	No

 $Table\ D10.4-Sampling\ Location:\ P3-SS-C1$ 

Constituent (Code)	Monitoring Result (mg/kg)	Background Comparison Level (mg/kg)	Monitoring Result Exceeds Background?
Silver (Ag)	0.094	1	No
Boron (B)	< 43	50	No
Cadmium (Cd)	0.50	1	No
Cobalt (Co)	7.2	35.8	No
Chromium (Cr)	12	36.4	No
Copper (Cu)	16	44.2	No
2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT)	< 0.095	0.5	No
2,6-dinitrotoluene (2,6-DNT)	< 0.095	0.5	No
Mercury (Hg)	0.023	0.2	No
Octahyro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazozine (HMX)	< 0.095	1	No
Nickel (Ni)	14	43.4	No
Lead (Pb)	17	54.1	No
Pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)	< 1.90	5	No
Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX)	< 0.19	1	No
Triaminonitrobenzene (TATB)	< 0.38	3	No
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNB135)	< 0.095	10	No
Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	< 0.095	10	No
Zinc (Zn)	62	129.8	No

Table D10.5 – Sampling Location: P3-SS-C2

Table D	10.5 – Samping Loc	ation: 13 bb C2	
Constituent (Code)	Monitoring Result (mg/kg)	Background Comparison Level (mg/kg)	Monitoring Result Exceeds Background?
Silver (Ag)	0.093	1	No
Boron (B)	< 42	50	No
Cadmium (Cd)	0.46	1	No
Cobalt (Co)	9.9	37.2	No
Chromium (Cr)	13	49.3	No
Copper (Cu)	16	43.9	No
2,4-dinitrotoluene (2,4-DNT)	< 0.096	0.5	No
2,6-dinitrotoluene (2,6-DNT)	< 0.096	0.5	No
Mercury (Hg)	0.019	0.2	No
Octahyro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazozine (HMX)	< 0.096	1	No
Nickel (Ni)	17	53.2	No
Lead (Pb)	17	24.4	No
Pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN)	< 1.9	5	No
Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX)	< 0.19	1	No
Triaminonitrobenzene (TATB)	< 0.38	3	No
1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNB135)	< 0.096	10	No
Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	< 0.096	10	No
Zinc (Zn)	59	139.9	No

**Table D10.6 – Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 101** 

		I	8				
Analyte (Agricultural Parameters)	Tract 101A Measured Value			: 101B ed Value		101C ed Value	Unit of Measurement
	Dept	th (in)	Dept	Depth (in)		h (in)	
	12	24	12	24	12	24	
pH (2:1 ratio soil pH)	7.5	8.6	7.4	8.3	7.8	8.3	pH Units
Total Nitrogen	1018.4	655.3	1239	596.4	909.4	591.8	mg/kg
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	18.4	15.3	39.0	16.4	29.4	11.8	mg/kg
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	1000	640	1200	580	880	580	mg/kg
Ortho Phosphate (Plant-available)	16	4	14	4	8	3	mg/kg
Calcium (Plant-available)	3755	6734	3436	8464	4481	8643	mg/kg
Magnesium (Plant-available)	814	862	758	905	783	973	mg/kg
Sodium (Plant-available)	150	197	153	218	162	229	mg/kg
Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR)	1.3	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.1	1.6	Percent
Potassium (Plant-available)	559	333	522	321	502	321	mg/kg
Conductivity (Sat Paste ECe)	0.66	0.64	0.83	0.71	0.76	0.68	μmho/cm
Calcium (Water-soluble)	54	56	73	58	55	48	mg/L
Magnesium (Water-soluble)	15	16	21	16	16	13	mg/L
Sodium (Water-soluble)	42	60	61	72	68	47	mg/L
Sulfur (Plant-available)	7	14	8	14	8	16	mg/kg

Table D10.7 - Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 201

Table D10.7 – Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 201									
Analyte (Agricultural	Meas	t 201A sured llue	Meas	201B sured lue	Tract 201C Measured Value		Tract 201D Measured Value		Unit of Measurement
Parameters)	Dept	h (in)	Dept	h (in)	Dept	h (in)	Depth (in)		
	12	24	12	24	12	24	12	24	
pH (2:1 ratio soil pH)	8.0	8.2	7.9	8.4	7.6	8.3	7.7	8.3	pH Units
Total Nitrogen	1018	619.1	1019.2	617.2	1118.2	606.5	1217	557.4	mg/kg
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	18	9.1	19.2	7.2	18.2	6.5	17	7.4	mg/kg
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	1000	610	1000	610	1100	600	1200	550	mg/kg
Ortho Phosphate (Plant-available)	19	4	12	5	14	5	18	5	mg/kg
Calcium (Plant-available)	4187	7372	6056	10140	4540	8038	4319	9978	mg/kg
Magnesium (Plant-available)	862	998	872	919	872	885	882	1011	mg/kg
Sodium (Plant-available)	166	244	171	263	185	228	185	242	mg/kg
Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR)	2.0	1.3	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.6	2.0	0.7	Percent
Potassium (Plant-available)	582	407	693	375	646	360	603	412	mg/kg
Conductivity (Sat Paste ECe)	0.58	0.52	0.53	0.49	0.60	0.46	0.51	0.48	μmho/cm
Calcium (Water-soluble)	42	38	36	55	64	50	39	47	mg/L
Magnesium (Water-soluble)	11	10	10	15	27	13	10	16	mg/L
Sodium (Water-soluble)	57	34	56	54	56	49	56	23	mg/L
Sulfur (Plant-available)	7	11	9	13	7	11	6	14	mg/kg

Table D10.8 – Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 301

	Tract 301A Measured Value			301B ed Value	Trac	t 301C ed Value	
Analyte (Agricultural Parameters)	Wicasur	cu valuc	Wicasui	cu vaiuc	Wicasui	cu valuc	Unit of Measurement
	Depth (in)		Dept	h (in)	Dep	th (in)	
	12	24	12	24	12	24	
pH (2:1 ratio soil pH)	7.5	8.4	8.1	8.4	7.7	8.4	pH Units
Total Nitrogen	873.6	571	931.9	621.3	981.5	591.4	mg/kg
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	3.6	1.0	1.9	1.3	1.5	1.4	mg/kg
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	870	570	930	620	980	590	mg/kg
Ortho Phosphate	22	3	15	5	22	6	mg/kg
(Plant-available) Calcium (Plant-available)	3734	7022	5048	8391	3702	7846	mg/kg
Magnesium (Plant-available)	861	990	915	977	984	1114	mg/kg
Sodium (Plant-available)	170	254	173	243	139	226	mg/kg
Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR)	1.8	2.4	1.5	2.1	1.2	1.9	Percent
Potassium (Plant-available)	464	311	559	366	567	430	mg/kg
Conductivity (Sat Paste ECe)	0.37	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.36	0.38	μmho/cm
Calcium (Water-soluble)	26	25	34	29	32	29	mg/L
Magnesium (Water-soluble)	8	7	9	8	10	9	mg/L
Sodium (Water-soluble)	40	54	38	50	31	46	mg/L
Sulfur (Plant-available)	12	12	7	10	6	12	mg/kg

Table D10.9 – Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 401

Table D10.9 – Sampling Location: TLAP Tract 401									
Analyte (Agricultural Parameters)	Tract 401A Measured Value		Tract 401B Measured Value		Tract 401C Measured Value		Tract 401D Measured Value		Unit of Measurement
,	Dept	Depth (in)		Depth (in)		Depth (in)		h (in)	
	12	24	12	24	12	24	12	24	
pH (2:1 ratio soil pH)	7.8	8.3	7.9	8.4	8.0	8.1	7.8	8.2	pH Units
Total Nitrogen	961.4	631.2	831.8	611.1	1001.9	712.0	881.4	2400.9	mg/kg
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	1.4	1.2	1.8	1.1	1.9	2.0	1.4	0.9	mg/kg
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	960	630	830	610	1000	710	880	2400	mg/kg
Ortho Phosphate (Plant-available)	12	5	9	4	30	11	19	5	mg/kg
Calcium (Plant-available)	3838	8034	4825	9580	5469	7649	4730	7337	mg/kg
Magnesium (Plant-available)	812	1033	785	956	631	853	780	903	mg/kg
Sodium (Plant-available)	140	216	117	174	105	188	120	167	mg/kg
Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR)	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.5	Percent
Potassium (Plant-available)	597	401	500	332	742	452	664	450	mg/kg
Conductivity (Sat Paste ECe)	0.34	0.39	0.36	0.40	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.34	μmho/cm
Calcium (Water-soluble)	33	32	39	37	38	43	38	30	mg/L
Magnesium (Water-soluble)	9	8	9	9	7	8	8	8	mg/L
Sodium (Water-soluble)	32	44	26	39	21	38	25	36	mg/L
Sulfur (Plant-available)	6	12	6	10	7	12	7	10	mg/kg

## Appendix E – Glossary

**Activity** - The rate of disintegration or transformation of radioactive material, generally expressed in units of Curies (Ci). The official SI unit is the Becquerel (Bq). One Bq (one disintegration or transformation per second) is equivalent to 2.7 X 10<sup>-11</sup> Ci.

ALARA - An acronym and phrase, "As Low As Reasonably Achievable," used to describe an approach to radiation exposures and emission control or management whereby the exposures and resulting doses to the public are maintained as far below the specified limits as economic, technical, and practical considerations will permit. ALARA is not a dose limit.

**Aliquot** – Contained an exact number of times in something else – used of a divisor or part.

**Alpha particle** - Type of particulate radiation (identical to the nucleus of the helium atom) consisting of two protons and two neutrons.

**Ammonium nitrate** - A colorless crystalline salt (NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>) used in explosives, fertilizers, and veterinary medicine.

**Anion** - A negatively charged ion that migrates to an anode, as in electrolysis.

**ANSI** - American National Standards Institute, a voluntary standards organization; Administrator, U.S. Technical Advisory Group to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

**Aquifer** - Rock or sediment in a formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that is saturated and sufficiently permeable to transmit economic quantities of water to wells and springs.

**Archeology** - Scientific discipline responsible for the recovery, analysis, interpretation, and explanation of the unwritten portion of the prehistoric and historic past. **Archival** - Relating to, held in, or constituting archives, which are places where public records or historic documents are preserved.

**Artifact** - Any object manufactured or modified by human beings.

**Asbestos** - Group of naturally occurring minerals that separate into fibers. The asbestos family includes actinolite, anthophyllite, chrysotile, crocidolite, and tremolite.

**Assembly** - The process of putting together a nuclear weapon or nuclear weapon component. This process takes place at Pantex Plant.

Background or control samples - Samples obtained from a background sampling location for comparison with samples obtained at or near Pantex Plant. Background or control samples are not expected to be affected by Pantex Plant operations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Station and the Texas Agri-Life Bush Research Farm at Bushland, Texas, have often been used as a control or background location.

**Background radiation** - Ionizing radiation which is in the natural environment, including cosmic rays and radiation from the naturally radioactive elements, both outside and inside the bodies of humans and animals.

**Becquerel** (**Bq**) - The Système International d'Unités (SI units) unit of radioactivity defined as one nuclear disintegration per second; therefore, one Curie (Ci) is equivalent to 3.7 X 10<sup>10</sup> Bq.

**Best Management Practices** - Practices that are not required by law, regulation, or permit, but are designed to help ensure that Pantex Plant produces the highest quality services and products.

**Beta particle** - Type of particulate radiation emitted from the nucleus of an atom that has a

mass and charge equal in magnitude to that of the electron.

**Biomass** - Literally, "living weight," refers to mass having its origin as living organisms.

**Biome** - Recognizable community units formed by the interaction of regional climate, regional biota, and substrate, e.g., the same biome units generally can be found on different continents at the same latitudes with approximately the same weather conditions and where topography is similar. Biomes are the largest land community units recognized.

**Biota** - Living organisms.

**Biota Concentration Guide** – The limiting concentration of a radionuclide in soil, sediment, or water that would not cause dose limits for protection of aquatic and terrestrial biota to be exceeded. An analogue to the Derived Concentration Guide (DCG) used for human exposure.

**Blackwater Draw Formation** - Quaternary formation consisting primarily of pedogenically modified eolian sands and silts interbedded with numerous caliche layers. The Blackwater Draw Formation overlies the Tertiary Ogallala Formation at Pantex Plant.

**Burning Ground** - Pantex Plant location where thermal processing (burning) of high explosives is conducted.

Calibration - The adjustment of a measurement system and the determination of its accuracy using instrument known sources and measurements. Adjustment of flow, temperature, humidity, or pressure gauges and determination of system accuracy should be conducted using standard operating procedures and sources that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

**Categorical Exclusion** – Categorical exclusions are categories of actions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that DOE has determined, by regulation, do not individually or

cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which; therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement normally is required.

**Cation** – A positively charged ion that in an electrolyte moves toward a negative electrode.

**Cell** - (1) This is the smallest unit capable of independent functioning. (2) A structure at Pantex Plant in which certain nuclear explosive assembly or disassembly operations are conducted.

**Central flyway** - A major migratory route used by large numbers of migrating birds in fall and spring that crosses the central portion of North America from Canada to Mexico.

**Centripetal drainage** - The flow of water in a basin toward a central drain or sink, such as a pond or lake.

**Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)** - Final federal regulations in force: published in codified form.

**Composite samples** – Samples that contain a certain number of subsamples.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) - Created, in the Executive Office of the President, by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), such that its members are exceptionally well qualified to analyze and interpret environmental trends and information of all kinds; to appraise programs and activities of the federal government in the light of the policy set forth in Title I of NEPA; to be conscious of and responsive to the scientific, economic, social, aesthetic, and cultural needs and interests of the Nation; and to formulate and recommend national policies to promote the improvement of the quality of the environment.

**Cultural Resources** - Districts, sites, structures, and objects and evidence of some importance to a culture, a subculture, or a community for scientific, traditional, religious, and other

reasons. These resources and relevant environmental data are important for describing and reconstructing past lifeways, for interpreting human behavior, and for predicting future courses of cultural development.

**Depleted uranium** - Uranium for which the content of the isotope of <sup>235</sup>uranium is smaller than 0.7 percent; the level found in naturally occurring uranium (and thus generally synonymous with isotope <sup>238</sup>uranium).

**Derived Concentration Guide** - Concentration of the radionuclide in air or water that, under conditions of continuous exposure for one year by one exposure mode (for example, ingestion of water or breathing the air) would result in an effective dose equivalent of 100 mrem (0.1 rem or 1 mSv). Values for these concentrations are tabulated in DOE STD 1196 2011; Derived Concentration Technical Standard.

**Dismantlement** - The disassembly of a nuclear weapon no longer required by the DOD. This process takes place at Pantex Plant.

**Dockum Group** - Triassic sedimentary rocks that underlie the Ogallala Formation at Pantex Plant. The Dockum Group rocks consist of shale, clayey siltstone, and sandstone.

**Dose** - The quantity of ionizing radiation received. Often used in the sense of exposure dose (a measure of the total amount of ionization that the radiation could produce in air, measured in roentgens [R]). This should be distinguished from the absorbed dose (measured in rads) that represents the energy absorbed from the radiation per gram of any material. Furthermore, dose equivalent (or biological dose); given in rem, is a term used to express the amount of effective radiation when modifying factors such as quality factors have been considered. It is therefore a measure of the biological damage to living tissue from the radiation exposure.

**Duplicate sample** - A sample that is taken at the same location and the same site; it may be taken simultaneously or consecutively. This sample may be collected for the purpose of evaluating the

performance of a measurement system or of the homogeneity of a sample population; i.e., to determine whether the sample results are representative or an anomaly. The duplicates are supposed to be similar in terms of the population sampled.

**Ecosystem** - Living organisms and their nonliving (abiotic) environment functioning together as a community.

**Effective Dose Equivalent (EDE)** - The sum of the products of the exposures to individual organs and tissues and appropriate weighting factors representing the risk relative to that for an equal dose to the whole body.

Effects Screening Levels (ESL) - Guideline concentrations established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to evaluate the potential impacts of air pollutant emissions including acute and chronic health effects, odor nuisance potential, vegetation effects or corrosion effects. These are set to provide a margin of safety below levels at which adverse effects are reported in scientific literature. This margin of safety is added to protect sensitive sub-populations, such as children, the elderly, and persons with pre-existing illnesses.

**Effluent** - A fluid discharged into the environment; an outflow of waste. Its monitoring is conducted at the point of release.

**Emission** - A substance discharged to the air.

**Emissions standards** - Legally enforceable limits placed on the quantities and/or kinds of air contaminants that can be emitted into the atmosphere.

**Encephalitis** - Inflammation of the brain. In the U.S., this is an acute, often fatal, viral disease of the central nervous system that is transmitted to humans by mosquitoes (arthropods) after a blood meal from infected horses or mules.

**Environmental Assessment** – A concise public document that a Federal agency prepares under

NEPA to provide sufficient evidence and analysis to determine whether a proposed agency action would require preparation of an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.

**Environmental Impact Statement** – The detailed written statement that is required by Section 102(2)(C) of NEPA for a proposed major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

**Environmental Monitoring** - Sample collection and analysis of environmental media, i.e., air, water, soil, foodstuff, and biota for the purpose of assessing effects of operations at that site on the local environment. It consists of effluent monitoring and environmental surveillance.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** - Federal agency created to protect the nation's water, land, and air from pollution or environmental damage.

**Environmental Restoration (ER) Program** - Program at Pantex Plant responsible for investigation and remediation of Solid Waste Management Units.

Environmental Surveillance - The collection and analysis of samples, or direct measurements of air, water, soil, foodstuff, and other media for the purpose of determining compliance with applicable standards and permit requirements, assessing radiation exposures of members of the public, and assessing the effects, if any, on the local environment.

**Ephemeral** - Lasting only a short period of time. Used in this document to describe water bodies that often does not have water year round. Typically, these water bodies have water following the wet seasons and then are dry during the dry seasons.

**Evapotranspiration** - The sum of evaporation, the process by which water passes from the liquid to the vapor state, and transpiration, the process by which plants give off water vapor through their leaves.

**Extirpate** – To destroy completely.

**Fauna** - Animal life, or animals as a whole, especially those that are characteristic of a region.

**Fecal coliform bacteria** - Simple organisms associated with the intestine of warm-blooded animals that are commonly used to indicate the presence of fecal material and the potential presence of organisms capable of causing human disease.

**Flora** - Plant life or plants as a whole, especially those that are characteristic of a region.

Gamma ray (gamma radiation) – High-energy, short wavelength electromagnetic radiation (a packet of energy) emitted from the nucleus. (Gamma radiation frequently accompanies alpha and beta emissions and always accompanies fission.) Gamma rays are very penetrating and can be stopped or shielded against by dense materials such as lead or uranium. Gamma rays are similar to X-rays, but are usually more energetic.

**Grab sample** - A single sample, collected at one time and place.

Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) – Chemical compounds found in the earth's atmosphere which absorb infrared radiation (heat) from the reflection of sunlight striking the earth's surface and cause rising temperatures. Some occur in nature (e.g., carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide), and others such as hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride are anthropogenic (man-made). For Federal agencies emissions of greenhouse gases are further classified as:

**Scope 1:** direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the Federal agency;

**Scope 2:** direct GHG emissions resulting from the consumption of purchased or acquired electricity, heat, or steam purchased by a Federal agency; and

**Scope 3:** GHG emissions from sources not owned or directly controlled by a Federal agency but related to agency activities such as vendor supply chains, delivery services, and employee travel and commuting.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome - The Hantavirus is found in saliva, urine, or feces of various rodent species and is transmitted to humans by inhalation. It causes rapidly progressive pulmonary symptoms that result in serious illness. Human-to-human transmission has not been demonstrated.

**Hazardous material** - A material, including a hazardous substance, as defined by 49 CFR 171.8 that poses a risk to health, safety, and property when handled or transported.

**Hazardous waste** - Defined by 40 CFR Part 261, as any material that a) is a solid waste, and b) is a listed hazardous waste (Subpart D), or c) exhibits any of the characteristics of ignitibility, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity (Subpart C).

**Hemoglobin** - A protein found in red blood cells that transports oxygen.

**Herpesvirus** - Any virus belonging to the family Herpesviridae. It is basically a wildlife disease, and offers possible implications to research on human viruses.

**Herbicide** - A substance (usually chemical) used to destroy undesirable plants.

**Herpetofauna** - Reptiles (snakes, turtles, lizards, etc.) and amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders).

**High explosives** - Any chemical compound or mechanical mixture which, when subjected to heat, impact, friction, shock, or other suitable initiation stimulus undergoes a very rapid chemical change with the evolution of large volumes of highly heated gases that exert pressure in the surrounding medium.

**Histopathology** - The science or study of dealing with the structure of abnormal or diseased tissue; examination of the tissue changes that accompany a disease.

**Historic** - Of, relating to, or existing in times postdating the development of written records. Historic cultural resources are all evidences of human occupations that date to recorded periods in history. Historic resources may be considered archeological resources when archeological work is involved for identification and interpretation.

**Industrial solid waste** - Solid waste resulting from or incidental to any process of industry or manufacturing, or mining or agricultural operations.

**Infrastructure** - The basic services, facilities and equipment needed for the functioning and growth of an area.

**Insecticide** - A substance used to destroy undesirable insects.

Interim Stabilization Measure (ISM) - Action taken to control or abate threats to human health and/or the environment from releases and/or to prevent or minimize the further spread of contamination while long-term remedies are pursued.

International System of Units - An internationally accepted coherent system of physical units, derived from the Meter, Kilogram, Second, Ampere (MKSA) System, using the meter, kilogram, second, ampere, kelvin, mole, and candela as the basic units (SI units) of the fundamental quantities length, mass, time, electric current, temperature, and luminous intensity. Abbr.: SI from the French "Système International d'Unités."

**Invertebrate** - Animals characterized by not having a backbone or spinal column, including a wide variety of organisms such as insects, spiders, worms, clams, crayfish, etc.

**Isotope** - Any of two or more species of atoms of a chemical element with the same atomic number and position in the periodic table and nearly identical chemical behavior but with different numbers of neutrons in their nuclei, and thus differing atomic mass number and different physical properties.

**Lacustrine** - Pertaining to, produced by, or inhabiting a lake or lakes.

**Lagomorph** - Any of the various gnawing mammals in the order Lagomorpha, including rabbits, hares, and pikas.

Less than 55-gallon Hazardous Waste Accumulation Sites - Temporary hazardous or mixed waste accumulation points located at or near the point of generation to collect no more than a total of 55 gallons of hazardous waste or no more than 1 quart of acutely hazardous waste. This area must be under the control of the operator of the process generating the waste.

Less than 90-Day Hazardous Waste Accumulation Sites - These are temporary accumulation areas used to collect hazardous wastes for 90 days or less before transfer to an interim status or permitted hazardous waste processing or storage facility.

**Llano Estacado** - Spanish for "staked plains", used to refer to the Southern High Plains.

**Low-level radioactive waste** - Waste containing radioactivity not classified as high-level, transuranic waste, spent nuclear fuel, or special by-product material.

**Mammal** - Animals in the class Mammalia that are distinguished by having self-regulating body temperature, hair, and in females, milk-producing mammary glands to feed their young.

**Matrix spike duplicates** - Used to evaluate the precision of a specific analysis.

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) - The maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water that is delivered to the free flowing outlet of the ultimate user of a public water system. MCLs are enforceable standards.

**Method Detection Limit** - A measure of instrument sensitivity using solutions that have been subjected to all sample preparation steps for the method.

**Metric System** - See International System of Units.

**Mitigation** - The alleviation of adverse impacts on resources by avoidance through project redesign or project relocation.

**Mixed waste** - Waste containing both radionuclides as defined by the Atomic Energy Act, and hazardous constituents as defined by 42 USC 6901 et seq. and 40 CFR 261.

**Mortuary remains** - Human physical remains and associated artifacts that exist in prehistoric and historic temporal contexts.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) - Standards developed, under the authority of the Clean Air Act by the Environmental Protection Agency, to protect the quality of the air we breathe. Standards are set for six pollutants: sulfur dioxide, particulate matter with a mean aerodynamic diameter of 10 microns or less, carbon monoxide, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, and lead.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - Federal statute promulgated under 40 CFR part 1500 through 1508; requires Federal facility actions be evaluated for environmental impacts, usually in the form of Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments. 10 CFR 1021 is DOE's Implementing Procedures for NEPA.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) - U.S. Federal Regulation (40 CFR, Parts 122 and 125) that requires permits for the discharge of pollutants from any point source into the waters of the United States.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) - A national list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

**Native American** - A tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the United States.

**Necropsy** - Autopsy, postmortem examination.

**Nuclear weapon** - Any weapon with a nuclear device designed specifically to produce a large release of energy (nuclear explosion) from the fission and/or fusion of atomic nuclei.

**Off-Normal Event** - Abnormal or unplanned events or conditions that adversely affect, potentially affect, or are indicative of degradation in, the safety, security, environmental or health protection performance or operation of a facility.

Off-site - Outside Pantex Plant site boundary.

On-site - Within Pantex Plant site boundary.

Ogallala Formation - Tertiary formation consisting of gravel, sand, silt, and clay. This is the principal geologic unit in the High Plains Aquifer. Comprises the Ogallala Aquifer in the Panhandle of Texas, the primary source of groundwater in the region. The top of the Ogallala Formation in large areas of Texas and New Mexico consists of a resistant caliche layer. The Ogallala Formation at Pantex Plant overlies the Triassic Dockum Group strata and underlies the Ouaternary Blackwater Draw Formation.

**Outfall** - The outlet of a body of water. In the surface water permitting program, the term outfall refers to the effluent monitoring location identified by the permit. An outfall may be "internal" (associated with a building) or "final" (the last monitoring point at Pantex Plant.)

**Perched aquifer** - Groundwater separated from the underlying main body of groundwater, or aquifer, by unsaturated rock.

**Permian** - The last period of the Paleozoic era (after the Pennsylvanian) thought to have covered the span of time between 280 and 225 million years ago (Ma); also, the corresponding system of rocks. It is named after the province of Perm, Russia, where rocks of this age were first studied.

**Plague** - An acute infection caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. It is transmitted from rodent to humans by the bite of an infected flea. It is less commonly transmitted by direct contact with infected animals or airborne droplets. This

disease is also manifested by an acute onset of fever followed by shock, multiple organ failure, and death; caught early, it is treatable with antibiotics.

**Playa** - A natural depression acting as a detention basin receiving surface runoff within a watershed area; an ephemeral lake.

**Plume** - An elongated pattern of contaminated air or water originating at a point source, such as a smoke stack or a hazardous waste disposal site.

**Plutonium** - A heavy, radioactive, manmade metallic element with atomic number 94. Its most important isotope is fissile <sup>239</sup>plutonium, which is produced by neutron irradiation of <sup>238</sup>uranium. The nuclei of all atoms of this isotope contain 94 protons and 145 neutrons.

**Pollution prevention** – The process of reducing and/or eliminating the generation of waste materials through source reduction, process modification, and recycling/reuse to minimize environmental or health hazards associated with hazardous wastes, pollutants or contaminants.

**Potable** - Suitable for drinking.

**Potentially interested parties** - Under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), organizations that have requested to be informed of Federal actions at a particular site.

Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) - The Final Risk Reduction Rule Guidance is used to identify the quantifiable limit of detection for sampled constituents at Pantex Plant. This limit is defined as Practical Quantitation Limit. A PQL is the lowest level that can be accurately and reproducibly quantified.

**Prehistoric** - Of, relating to, or existing in times antedating written history. Prehistoric cultural resources are those that pre-date written records of the human cultures that produced them.

**Process knowledge** - Used to characterize a waste stream when it is difficult to sample because of physical form, the waste is too heterogeneous to be characterized by one set of

samples, or the sampling and analysis of the waste stream results in unacceptable risks of radiation exposure.

**Programmatic Agreement** - The document outlining specific plans for the management of cultural resources at Pantex Plant before the long-term Cultural Resource Management Plan was implemented. The parties to the agreement were the U.S. Department of Energy, the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Texas State Historic Preservation Office.

**Pseudorabies** - A highly contagious disease affecting cattle, horses, dogs, swine, and other mammalian species, caused by porcupine herpes virus 1, which has its reservoir in swine. In species other than swine, pseudorabies is highly fatal.

**Pullman soil series** - Silty clay loams; soils found in the interplaya areas at Pantex Plant.

**Quaternary** - The most recent of the three periods of the Cenozoic Era in the geologic time scale. It follows the Neogene Period and spans from  $2.588 \pm 0.005$  million years ago to the present. It is divided into two epochs: the Pleistocene and the Holocene.

Rabies - A rapidly fatal disease of the central nervous system that may be transmitted to any warm-blooded animal. The disease starts with a fever, headache, muscle aches, nausea, and vomiting, and eventually progresses to agitation, confusion, combativeness, increased salivation and decreased swallowing, followed by coma and death. It can be transmitted to humans through the bite of infected animals such as dogs, cats, skunks, wolfs, foxes, raccoons, and bats.

Radiation (nuclear) – Particles (alpha, beta, neutrons) or photons (gamma) emitted from the nucleus of an unstable (radioactive) atom as a result of radioactive decay. It does not include non-ionizing radiation, such as microwaves or visible, infrared, or ultraviolet light.

**Radioactive** - The state of emitting radiation in the form of waves (rays) or particles.

**Radioactivity** – The spontaneous emission of radiation, generally alpha or beta particles, often accompanied by gamma rays, from the nucleus of an unstable isotope.

**Randall soil series** - Clay soils present in the playa bottoms at Pantex Plant.

**Raptor** - Birds of prey including various species of hawks, falcons, eagles, vultures and owls.

Replicate analysis - A repeated operation occurring within an analytical procedure, e.g., two or more analyses for the same constituent in an extract of a single sample. Replicate environmental samples measure the overall precision of the sampling or analytical methods, while replicate analyses are identical analyses carried out on the same sample multiple times. They measure analytical laboratory precision only.

**Resource Conservation and Recovery Act** (RCRA) - Federal statute which governs current and planned hazardous waste management activities.

**Risk Reduction Rules** - 30 TAC 335 Subchapter S, outline three risk reduction levels to be considered relative to the corrective measures.

**Risk Reduction Standard 1** – Closure and/or remediation to background levels by removing or decontaminating all waste, waste residues, leachate, and contaminated media to levels unaffected by waste management activities.

**Risk Reduction Standard 2** – Closure and/or remediation to health-based standards and criteria by removing, containing, or decontaminating all waste, waste residues, leachate, and contaminated media to meet standards and criteria such that any substantial present and future threats to human health and the environment are very low.

**Risk Reduction Standard 3** – Closure and/or remediation with controls, which entails removal, containment, or decontamination of waste, waste residues, leachate, and contaminated media to such levels and in such a manner that any

substantial present or future threats to human health and the environment are reduced to an acceptable level, based on use.

Sanitization - The irreversible modification or destruction of a component or part of a component of a nuclear weapon, device, trainer or test assembly, as necessary, to prevent revealing classified or otherwise controlled information, as required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

**Saturated zone** - The zone in which the voids in the rock or soil are filled with water at a pressure greater than atmospheric. The water table is the top of the saturated zone in an unconfined aquifer.

**Sedimentation** - The process of deposition of sediment, especially by mechanical means from a state of suspension in air or water.

**Seismic** - Pertaining to any earth vibration, especially an earthquake.

**Sievert (Sv)** - The Système International d'Unités (SI units) unit of equivalent dose. One Sievert is equivalent to 100 rem.

**Site** - A geographic entity comprising leased or owned land, buildings, and other structures required to perform program activities.

**Site** (archeological) - Any area or location occupied as a residence or used by humans for a sufficient length of time to leave physical remains or traces of occupancy. The sites are extremely variable in size and may range from a single hunting camp to an extensive land surface with evidence of numerous settlements and activities. The site(s) may consist of secondarily deposited archeological remains.

**Slug test** - An aquifer test made either by pouring a small instantaneous charge of water into a well or by withdrawing a slug of water from the well. The rate of recovery of the water table to equilibrium conditions is monitored as the stress is applied to the aquifer. Information from slug tests can be used to estimate the hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer.

Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) - Any unit from which hazardous constituents may migrate, as defined by RCRA. A designated area that is, or is suspected to be, the source of a release of hazardous material into the environment that will require investigation and/or corrective action.

**Split** - One larger sample is split into "equal" parts. The goal of a split sample is to evaluate analytical accuracy. If a sample is split into two parts: one may go to the contractor, one to the regulator; or the two parts may go to two different labs for comparison purposes, or one may be sent to a laboratory for analysis; the second one held for later confirmatory analysis, or in case the first one is lost/broken.

**Standard deviation** - The absolute difference between one of a set of numbers and their means. It is a statistic used as a measure of dispersion in a distribution, the square root of the arithmetic average of the squares of the deviations from the mean.

**Storm water** - A precipitation event that leads to an accumulation of water; it includes storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, surface runoff, and drainage.

**Supplement Analysis** - A document that DOE prepares in accordance with DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR 1021.314(c)) to determine whether a supplemental or new EIS should be prepared pursuant to CEQ NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1502.9(c)).

**Surface water** - Water that is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff. Surface water includes storm water.

**Tertiary** - The first period of the Cenozoic era (after the Cretaceous of the Mesozoic era and before the Quaternary) thought to have covered the span of time between 65 and 2 Ma; also, the corresponding system of rocks.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** (**TCEQ**) -The state agency responsible for the environmental quality of Texas. TCEQ has the

lead regulatory role for RCRA-regulated waste generated at Pantex Plant.

Thermoluminescent Dosimeter (TLD) - A device containing crystalline materials that, when struck by radiation, contain more energy than in their normal state. At the end of the measurement period, heat is used to anneal the crystals and free the energy, which emerges as a light pulse. The pulse is then mathematically converted to the dose received by the TLD. Correction factors in the conversion equation are adjusted for various filters, TLD crystal elements and incident radiation. The device can either be carried by a radiation worker, or, as used in this document, placed at a specific location to measure the cumulative radiation dose.

**Thorium** - A radioactive metallic element that occurs combined in minerals and is usually associated with rare earth elements. Thorium's atomic number is 90.

**Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)** - Federal statute that establishes requirements for identifying and controlling toxic chemical hazards to human health and the environment.

**Tracer** - A labeled element used to trace the course of a chemical or biological process.

**Transuranic waste** (**TRU**) - Waste, without regard to source or form, that is contaminated with alpha-emitting radionuclides of atomic number greater than 92 (uranium) and with half-lives greater than 20 years in concentrations greater than 100 nanocuries per gram.

**Triassic** - The first period of the Mesozoic era (after the Permian of the Paleozoic era, and before the Jurassic) thought to have covered the span of time between 225 and 190 Ma; also, the corresponding system of rocks.

**Trihalomethanes** - One of the families of organic compounds (methane derivatives) in which three of the four hydrogen atoms in methane are substituted by a halogen atom in the molecular structure.

**2,4,6-trinitrotoluene** (**TNT**) - A flammable toxic compound ( $C_7H_5N_3O_6$ ) obtained by nitrating toluene and used as a high explosive and in chemical synthesis.

**Trip blanks** - Provided for each shipping container to be analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Analytical results from trip blanks are used to evaluate whether there was any contamination of the sample bottle during shipment from the manufacturer, storage of the bottles, during shipment to the laboratories, or during analysis at the laboratory.

**Tritiated** – Containing tritium.

**Tritium** - A radioactive isotope of hydrogen with one proton and two neutrons in its nucleus. It is chemically identical to natural hydrogen and reacts with other substances and is absorbed into the body in the same manner. Elemental tritium incorporates readily with water to form tritiated water (HTO) or oxidized tritium. When this tritiated water is present in the gaseous state in the atmosphere, it is referred to as tritiated water vapor. Tritium decays by beta emission with a radioactive half-life of about 12.5 years.

**Tularemia** - A disease caused by *Francisella tularensis* and transmitted to humans by rodents through the bite of a deer fly, *Chrysops discalis*, and other bloodsucking insects; it can also be acquired directly through the bite of an infected animal or through handling of an infected animal carcass.

**Uranium** - A silvery, heavy, radioactive, polyvalent metallic element that is found especially in pitchblende and uraninite and exists naturally as a mixture of three isotopes of mass number 234, 235, and 238 in the proportions of 0.006 percent, 0.71 percent, and 99.28 percent, respectively. Uranium has an atomic number of 92.

**Vadose zone** - Also called the unsaturated zone, the zone between the land surface and the water table. The pore spaces in the vadose zone contain water at less than atmospheric pressure, as well as

air and other gases. Saturated bodies, such as perched aquifers, may exist in the vadose zone.

**Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)** - Organic compounds capable of being readily vaporized at normal temperatures and pressures. Examples are benzene, toluene, and carbon tetrachloride.

Waste generator - Any individual or group of individuals that generate radioactive, mixed, hazardous, or other types of wastes at Pantex Plant.

**Waste minimization** - Refers to a practice that reduces the environmental or health hazards associated with hazardous wastes, pollutants, or contaminants after generation.

Waste Tracking System Database – The computerized log maintained by the Waste Operations Department.

**Watershed** – A ridge of high land dividing two areas that are drained by different river systems. It can also be the region draining into a river, river system, or body of water.

**Weapon component** - A part designed specifically for use in a weapon.

**Weir** - A fence or enclosure set in a waterway to raise the water level or to gauge or divert its flow.

**Wetlands** - Land or areas exhibiting hydric soil concentrations saturated or inundated soil during some portion of the year, and plant species tolerant of such conditions.

**Wind Rose** – A graphical depiction of the annual frequency distribution of wind speed and the direction from which the wind has blown.

## Appendix F – Elements and Chemicals

Ag silver
As arsenic
Ba barium
Be beryllium
Ca calcium
Cd cadmium

CO carbon monoxide

Cr chromium Cu copper

DNX hexahydro-1,3-Dinitroso-5-Nitro 1,3,5-triazine

Fe iron Hg mercury

HMX octahydro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro 1,3,5,7-tetrazocine

MEK methyl ethyl ketone

Mn manganese

MNX hexahydro-1-Nitroso-3,5-Dinitro-1,3,5-triazine

NO<sub>x</sub> nitrogen oxides

 $O_3$  ozone Pb lead

PCBs polychlorinated biphenyls PETN Pentaerythrithol tetranitrate

RDX hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine

TCE trichloroethylene/ethene

THF tetrahydrofuran

Ti titanium
TNB trinitrobenzene
TNT trinitrotoluene

TNX hexahydro-1,3,5-Trinitroso-1,3,5-triazine

SO<sub>x</sub> sulfur oxides

Zn zinc

## Appendix G - Units of Measure

ac acres
Bq becquerel
°C degrees Celsius
ctm cubic feet per minute

Ci curie cm centimeter

E  $\pm n$  exponential (E) is  $10\pm n$  where n is some number (see Appendix F: Conversion

Information)

°F degrees Fahrenheit

ft foot/feet
ft/min feet per minute
ft² square foot
ft³ cubic feet
g or gm gram
gal gallon

gpm gallons per minute

ha hectare
hr hour
in inch(es)
kg kilogram
km kilometer

kBtu/ft²/year energy per square foot per year

L liter(s)
lb pound
m meter

m<sup>3</sup> cubic meter (approx. 1.308 cubic yards)

Ma million years ago mg/L milligrams per liter

mi mile

mi<sup>2</sup> square mile min minute

MMBtu one million British Thermal Units

mps meters per second mrem/yr millirem per year mSv milliSievert

mSv/yr milliSievert per year
pCi/g picocuries per gram
ppb parts per billion
ppm parts per million

R Roentgen

rem Roentgen equivalent man

sec second

SU standard units

Sv Sievert

TPY tons per year

yr year

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mu & \text{micro} \ (1.0 \ x \ 10^{\text{-6}}) \\ \mu \text{g/L} & \text{micrograms per liter} \\ \mu \text{mho/cm} & \text{micromhos per centimeter} \end{array}$ 

## **Appendix H - Conversion Factors**

**Units of Radiation Measurement** 

<b>Current System</b>	Systéme International	Conversion
curie (Ci)	becquerel (Bq)	$1 \text{ Ci} = 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ Bq}$
rad	gray (Gy)	1 rad = 0.01 Gy
rem	Sievert (Sv)	1  rem = 0.01  Sv

#### **Scientific Notation Used for Units**

Multiple	Decimal Equivalent	Notation	Prefix	Symbol
1 x 10 <sup>3</sup>	1,000	E+03	kilo-	k
1 x 10 <sup>-2</sup>	0.01	E-02	centi-	С
1 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.001	E-03	milli-	m
1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.000001	E-06	micro-	μ
1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup>	0.000000001	E-09	nano-	n
1 x 10 <sup>-12</sup>	0.000000000001	E-12	pico-	p
1 x 10 <sup>-18</sup>	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	E-18	atto-	a

#### **Metric Conversions**

When you know	Multiply by	To Get	When you know	Multiply by	To Get
cm	0.39	in.	in.	2.54	cm
m	3.28	ft	ft	0.305	m
km	0.62	mi	mi	1.61	km
kg	2.21	1b	1b	0.45	kg
L	0.26	gal	gal	3.79	L
L	1.04	quart	quart	0.95	L
hectare	2.47	acre	acre	0.40	hectare
km <sup>2</sup>	0.39	mi <sup>2</sup>	$mi^2$	2.59	km <sup>2</sup>
m <sup>3</sup>	35.32	ft <sup>3</sup>	ft <sup>3</sup>	0.03	m <sup>3</sup>

To convert the temperature in degrees Celsius (degrees C) to degrees Fahrenheit (degrees F), use degrees F = 1.8(degrees C) + 32 degrees.

### **Prefixes Used in the Metric System**

Prefix	Abbreviation	Meaning	Example
Giga	G	$10^{9}$	1 gigameter (Gm) = $1 \times 10^9$ m
Mega	M	$10^{6}$	1 megameter (Mm) = $1 \times 10^6$ m
Kilo	k	$10^{3}$	1 kilometer (km) = $1 \times 10^3$ m
Deci	d	10 <sup>-1</sup>	1 decimeter $(dm) = 0.1m$
Centi	c	10-2	1 centimeter (cm) = $0.01$ m
Milli	m	10 <sup>-3</sup>	1 millimeter (mm) = $0.001$ m
Micro	$\mu^a$	10 <sup>-6</sup>	1 micrometer ( $\mu$ m) = 1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> m
Nano	n	10-9	1 nanometer (nm) = $1 \times 10^{-9}$ m
Pico	р	10 <sup>-12</sup>	1 picometer (pm) = $1 \times 10^{-12}$ m
Femto	f	10 <sup>-15</sup>	1 femtometer (fm) = $1 \times 10^{-15}$ m

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> This is the Greek letter mu (pronounced "mew").

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